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*Hark, the voice of Jesus calling
Who will go and work today?*



**A History of
Woman's Missionary Union
First Baptist Church
New Bern, N. C.**

1886 - 1988

**by
Jane Marshall Jenkins**

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**A History of
Woman's Missionary Union
First Baptist Church
New Bern, N. C.**

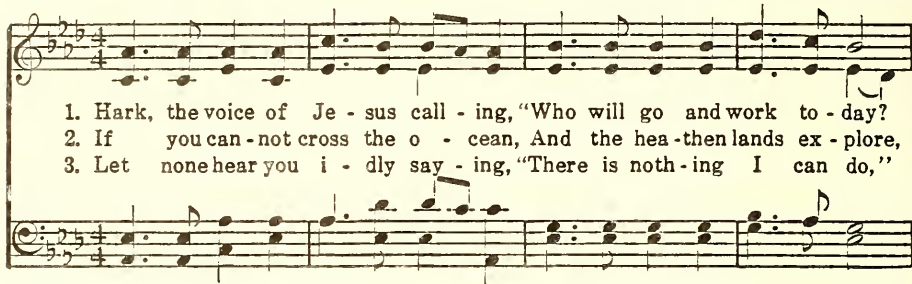
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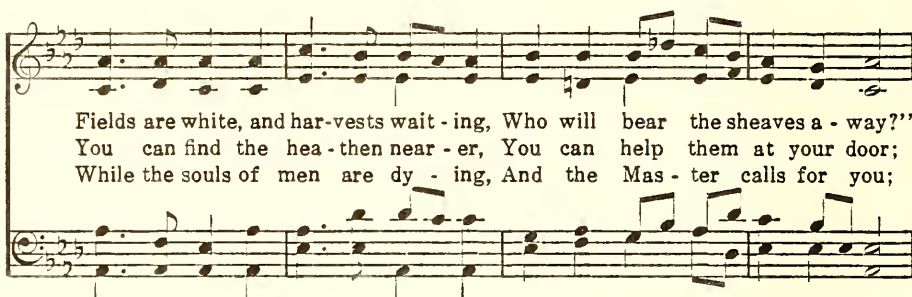
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Arr. by HUBERT P. MAIN, 1839-1925

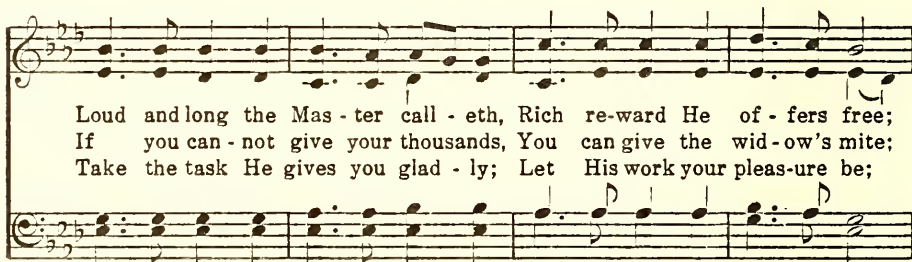
DANIEL MARCH, 1816-1909



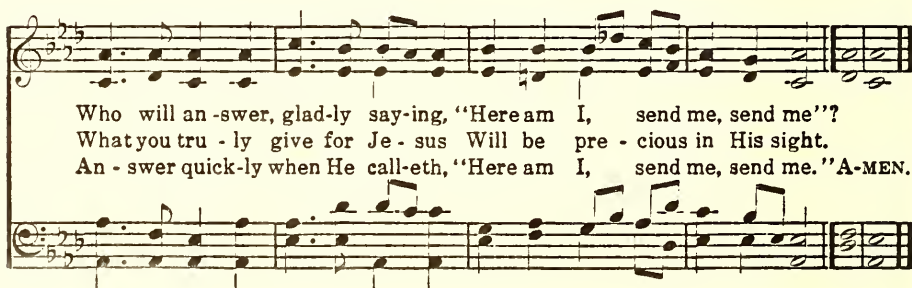
1. Hark, the voice of Je - sus call - ing, "Who will go and work to - day?
2. If you can - not cross the o - cean, And the hea - then lands ex - plore,
3. Let none hear you i - dly say - ing, "There is noth - ing I can do,"



Fields are white, and har - vests wait - ing, Who will bear the sheaves a - way?"
You can find the hea - then near - er, You can help them at your door;
While the souls of men are dy - ing, And the Mas - ter calls for you;



Loud and long the Mas - ter call - eth, Rich re - ward He of - fers free;
If you can - not give your thousands, You can give the wid - ow's mite;
Take the task He gives you glad - ly; Let His work your pleas - ure be;



Who will an - swer, glad - ly say - ing, "Here am I, send me, send me?"
What you tru - ly give for Je - sus Will be pre - cious in His sight.
An - swer quick - ly when He call - eth, "Here am I, send me, send me." A-MEN.



**A History of
Woman's Missionary Union
First Baptist Church
New Bern, N. C.**

Printed by
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Preface

The writing of this history of Woman's Missionary Union, First Baptist Church, New Bern, N. C., was undertaken at the request of the Woman's Missionary Union Council. There were minutes available for 61 years while the minutes for 41 years were missing. This made a difficult but challenging task.

It was written in love and gratitude for my mother, Mrs. R. L. Jenkins, who had a deep and abiding love for Women's Missionary Union. She was born in 1888, the same year that Woman's Missionary Union auxiliary to Southern Baptist Convention was organized. This same time of birth seemed to have given her an especial bond and commitment to Woman's Missionary Union. She became a member of Woman's Missionary Society when she was a seventeen year old girl. She engendered in her five daughters and two granddaughters a thirst and love for missions which she nurtured into a Missionary Education.

Tribute and praises are given to our mothers, grandmothers and great grandmothers who prayed, and planned and plod that we might be brought to this Centennial Year.

For the rich heritage that I have in Woman's Missionary Union, I joyfully say with the Psalmist: "The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage." Psalm 16:6.

Jane Marshall Jenkins

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Chapter I

The Calling Voice Is Heard

**“HARK, THE voice of Jesus Calling,
Who Will Go and Work Today?”**

When did Baptist Women in New Bern first hear the Voice of Jesus calling? The call could have been heard as early as 1741 when three of the menfolks requested permission to build a church in New Bern. The request was denied but the calling voice was not silenced, the hearing was not dimmed nor was the response quelled.

The calling was probably heard prior to that Sunday afternoon in May of 1809 when Mrs. Joshua Mitchell met with John Brinson and Elijah Clark in the Clark Home to organize the New Berne Baptist Church. Mission feelings stirred in the hearts of the women for awhile before there was a mission organization. In a memorial Tribute to Mrs. Kitte E. Brinson dated June 1908, it was recorded that, “Mrs. Brinson was one of our oldest and most faithful members having been identified with us in mission work for many years prior to the organization of our Women’s Missionary Union.”

It is not known when the Ladies Missionary Society was begun; however, there is strong indication that there was an organization prior to 1886. The first available records are the minutes of a meeting, November 7, 1886, for reorganization of

the Ladies Missionary Society of The New Berne Baptist Church. The minutes read as follows: "On the 7th of Nov. 1886 a meeting was held in the church for the reorganization of the Ladies Missionary Society of the New Berne Baptist Church. Mrs. Annie M. Whitfield was elected President of the society for the term of six months.' The society was adjourned to meet at the Baptist Parsonage at a time designated by the Pastor."

/s/ Theo Whitfield, Sec. Pro. Tem.

Dr. Whitfield was the pastor of the New Berne Baptist church and Mrs. Annie M. Whitfield was his wife. On January 5, 1886, while pastor here and the the first vice-president of the Foreign Mission Board for North Carolina, Dr. Whitfield went to Raleigh to confer with the officers of the State Board of Missions. He had a strong desire to see the Baptist Women of the south organized for the cause of missions. The things accomplished at that meeting led to the forming of the Woman's Central Committee of Missons and the consent of Miss Fannie E. S. Heck to serve as its President. That same desire probably led to the meeting for reorganization here in November of that same year.

Dr. and Mrs. Whitfield left New Berne and went to Virginia in 1887. It was there in Richmond that Mrs. Whitfield presided at the organizational meeting, Friday, May 11, 1888, of the Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention. Their daughter, Miss Emma Whitfield, designed the WMU Pin which was adopted in 1913 for the Jubilate Celebration. In the Biblical Recorder dated Wednesday, August 25, 1915 her name is listed among those who appeared on the Ridgecrest platform and in Assembly work during the past eight weeks. "Miss Emma M. Whitfield, Richmond, Va., Teacher of Art in the Woman's College of Richmond, and recognized as an artist of the first rank, taught art during the Summer School." The ladies in New Berne Baptist Church were blessed to have the vision and leadership of the Whitfield Family. Mrs. Annie Morehead Whitfield and daughter Emma M. Whitfield are buried in Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond. This Cemetery has been called the Baptist's Westminster Abbey.

The second meeting of the reorganized society met seventeen days after the first meeting. A constitution was adopted, other officers elected and a committee appointed to appoint a Collecting Committee.

23 Nov. 1886

“The L. M. Society met at the Parsonage. The following Constitution was adopted.”

’Section 1. This Society shall be called The Ladies Missionary Society of the New Berne Baptist Church.

Section 2. Its object shall be the support of missions, as prosecuted by the Southern Baptist Convention and by the N. C. Baptist State Convention.

Sec. 3. It shall be composed of all persons who are willing to contribute not less than **one cent** a week to its object. To facilitate the collecting of this money each person or family desiring it will be supplied with a Mite Box in which to deposit their contributions.

Sec. 4. A Collecting Committee shall be appointed for a term of six months, whose duty it shall be to keep a list of all boxes given, to collect all contributions for the society monthly and to pay the same to the Treasurer of the Society.

Sec. 5. The officers of this Society shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary and a Treasurer to be elected at each Semi-annual meeting and to hold their office until a new election.

Sec. 6. The President, or in her absence the Vice President shall preside at all meetings of the Society and to present at the Semi Annual Meeting a full report of its progress during the term then closed.

Sec. 7. The Treasurer shall receive all money, keep an accurate account of the same and report at each meeting the amounts received. Either quarterly or Semi Annually the Treasurer shall pay out the money received as directed by the Society.

Sec. 8. The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Society and shall communicate at least once a term the condition of the Society to the Woman’s Central

Committee in Raleigh, N. C.

Sec. 9. The Secretary shall give notice when necessary of the meetings of the Society, record the proceedings and keep a list of the members.

Sec. 10. The Semi Annual Meeting shall be in May and November.

Sec. 11. This Society shall meet on Wednesday preceding the first Thursday in each month and the meeting shall be opened with religious services.

Sec. 12. Changes may be made in this Constitution only at a Semi Annual Meeting.'

"The following officers were then elected for the Term ending with the Semi Annual Meeting in May 1887."

Vice President, Mrs. C. Ivey

Secretary, Mrs. Tillie Lewis

Corresponding Secretary, Miss Bessie Whitford

Treasurer, Miss Sadie Wilson

"Mrs. Kittie Brinson, Mrs. Churchill and Mrs. D.G. Smaw were appointed a Committee to appoint a **Collecting Committee** of such members as they may think best."

"The Society then adjourned."

/s/Mrs. A.M. Whitfield, President
T. Whitfield, Sec. pro. tem.

This Constitution was in effect for five years. The minutes of November 1891 record that the Pastor, Mr. Ford, presented to the Society a new Constitution and by laws which was unanimously accepted. There is no further record concerning constitutions and by laws except the minutes of October, 1893 state, "The Constitution and By laws was read."

“Fields are White and Harvest Waiting, Who will bear the sheaves away?”

From the beginning our women had a keen interest in missions. In the third meeting of the Society, December 1, 1886, “The President read the report on missions recently made to the N. C. Baptist State Convention at Wilmington.” The entire meeting was devoted to missions. “Mrs. A. T. Jerkins read a little book on China.” The President, Mrs. A. M. Whitfield, distributed some missionary papers received by Mrs. A. T. Jerkins.” Contact had already been made with some of our missionaries, by the time the ladies met in February of 1887. “Mrs. H. B. Duffy read an interesting letter from Mrs. Crawford, one of our missionaries in China.” Dr. Whitfield also read a private letter from Rev. J. N. Eager in charge of our missions in Italy.”

In April of that same year the minutes stated that members made an extra contribution which amounted to a little over \$5.00 which was divided between the Home Board and Mr. Bryan's house. Who was Mr. Bryan and what was his house? Robert T. Bryan was appointed a missionary in China in 1885 by the Foreign Mission Board. He was a native of Duplin County, North Carolina, a county almost adjoining our county of Craven. The women felt a closeness to their neighbor and wanted to help with his mission endeavor in China. Mr. Bryan founded Ming Jang Boy's School and a Bible Class which became the Theological Department of Shanghai Baptist College Seminary. The ladies' desire to help continued and they raised \$12.70 for Mr. Bryan's house by selling Ice Cream made by some of the women.

Their interest in missions was still evident in July 1888, when the ladies decided to divide the funds in the treasury amounting to \$12.50 cts. equally between the State and Foreign Mission Board.”

In almost every meeting during the year of 1889 the minutes noted, “The meeting was conducted by Mrs. J. Brinson who opened with reading the Scriptures and prayer-afterwards,

reading an excellent piece on Missions. "After devotional exercises, the pastor read an exceedingly interesting and instructive selection from the Homiletic Review upon the Growth of Missions." "After the usual opening exercises a selection was read by Rev. H. W. Battle from, 'Crisis of Missions.'"

The love for missions remained strong in the hearts of the women. Even though the meeting, March 1, 1890 was not largely attended and only \$3.35 was collected, "the Treasurer was instructed to forward to the Central Committee at Raleigh Ten Dollars for Foreign Missions. Several plans for raising funds were discussed and much enthusiasm in the mission cause manifested."

A strong Mission Foundation had been laid and the ladies continued to build and add support. They voted in May 1892 to request the Pastor, The Rev. Rufus Ford, to deliver a special sermon on the subject of, "Missions," and that it be in the interest of, "Our Missionary Centennial." When Mrs. Gates made that motion she wanted the society to lead the church in the celebration of the beginning of the Modern Missionary Movement a hundred years before.

Some months later, March 1893, a resolution was passed devoting the contributions for the next month to be the, "Centennial Fund," to help North Carolina reach its goal of \$15,000. The permanent Building Fund was to be divided between the Home and Foreign Boards. The Special Collection amounted to \$23.00 "As all members were not present and we feared some who would like to contribute had not had the opportunity, Mrs. Brinson and Miss Sallie Ford consented to see the other ladies of the congregation." Their desire was strong for the success of this endeavor to pay tribute to those pioneer missionary souls who met October 2, 1792 in Kettering, England to form the first, "Baptist Society for Propagating the Gospel among the Heathen."

It is most evident that the New Berne Baptist Church had many pastors who were mission minded and that they encouraged and helped the women in their effort to organize and promote mission causes. The minutes of the Ladies Missionary

Society show that Dr. T. Whitfield met often with the women and usually conducted Religious Exercises.

There were no minutes from July 1887 when Dr. Whitfield left New Berne until April 2, 1888. Those April minutes state that the Ladies Missionary Society met at the call of the president, Mrs. Dudley. "The meeting was opened by reading of the Scriptures and Prayer by our Pastor, Rev. Mr. Battle." "On vote of the Society Rev. Mr. Battle was requested and consented to attend the meetings of the Society and open the meeting with Prayer and Reading." There seemed to be a pattern of ebb and flow of the Society with the presence and absence of Pastors.

The coming of the Rev. Rufus Ford and his presence are noted in Minutes of February 1891. "The meeting was opened with Religious Exercises conducted by the Pastor, Rev. Mr. Ford. The advisability of having a certain field or feature of Mission Work discussed at each meeting was proposed by Rev. Ford and the Prayer Card to be taken as a guide."

The Biblical Recorder, dated May 20, 1908 printed on its front page the following, "Annual Sermon Before The Southern Baptist Convention convened at Hot Springs, Ark., May 14, 1908. By Henry W. Battle, DD. of North Carolina, "The Everlasting Love of God."

Dr. Hight C. Moore, Pastor here at the turn of the Century, 1898-1903, later became Editor of the Biblical Recorder and Assistant Secretary of the N. C. Baptist State Convention, 1907.

These Great Missionary Pastors, Whitfield, Battle, Ford, Moore, in the early years of our Society were invaluable to its organization and growth; however, there was an earlier group of pastors whose missionary fervor and influence were also felt. "History of North Carolina Baptist Convention," by Livingston Johnson, No. V - 1843-1846, supplies information about three early New Berne Pastors which shows their keen interest in missions.

RALEIGH October 15 to 20, 1846

Thomas Meredith was elected President of this session.

The Constitution was amended so as to provide for three boards, The Home (State) Mission Board located in Raleigh;

The Foreign Mission Board located in Yanceyville, and the Board of Education located at Wake Forest College."

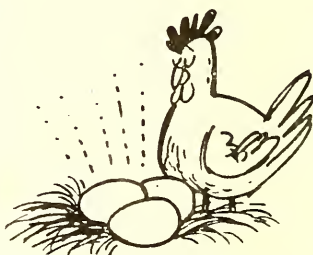
"Foreign Missions is the key-note of this Convention. Matthew T. Yates had been appointed missionary to China, and the Raleigh Associations assumed his support. Yates was ordained Sunday Night. T. Meredith preached the sermon from II Tim. 4:2 'Preach the Word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine.' The charge was delivered by J. B. Taylor, the Bible presented by R. Furman and the right hand of fellowship extended by S. Wait. After ordination, twenty individuals gave five dollars each to go to the support of Brother Yates, and others added smaller amounts, making a total of a hundred and thirty dollars."

Thomas Meredith served two pastorates, 1819-1822, 1834-1836. Samuel Wait was pastor in 1827-1830. Richard Furman, Jr., was pastor here when this Convention met. If this Roll Call of Pastors sounds like bragging, forgive us, please. It is really an expression of our praise and thanksgiving to God for his marvelous leadership and blessing through these able and dedicated servants. Surely the ladies heard the voice of Jesus calling through the Preaching and lives of these men.

**"If you cannot give your thousands,
You can give the widow's mite."**

After reading and seeing the giving and sharing of our early members, I am reminded of the remarks of the bank teller to the treasurer of the Ladies Aid Society. She passed the money through the grillwork of the teller window and said, "Aid Money." He misunderstood her and thought that she said, "Egg Money." He said it

is amazing what a few old hens can do!" I stand amazed at all that they were able to do. It is hard for us to realize just how little the women had to give a century ago and just how few of



them there were to give. I am sure whatever they did for Jesus is precious in His sight.

Giving was strong in the hearts of those women who first organized for missions. Those Mite Boxes issued per the Constitution were for gifts not for collecting dust. The stipulations were not less than one cent per week. The first financial reports of the societies to the Women's Central Committee of Missions showed that New Berne had contributed \$11.50 as of December 31, 1886.

At the April 6, 1887, meeting the treasurer reported \$4.80 received. The May report showed that the Mite Boxes were received and 40 cts. expressage due on them. "In June a few of the ladies met but the President being absent there was no regular meeting of the Society." After a period of nine months of no meetings the attendance picked up somewhat. In the April 1888 meeting eighteen ladies responded to the roll call.

There were sixteen ladies present at the June 1888 meeting. "The Ladies' Missionary Society assembled in its regular meeting on the second Wednesday in June at the home of the President, Mrs. Dudley." Our pastor being absent, the meeting was opened by the reading of Scriptures and prayer by Mrs. Battle."

"Ladies present: Mrs. Dudley, Mrs. Rountree, Mrs. H. B. Duffy. Mrs. Brinson, Mrs. Ivey, Mrs. Holland, Miss Holland, Mrs. Gates, Mrs. Willis, Mrs. Snelling, Mrs. Smaw, Miss Wilson, Mrs. Lupton, Mrs. Jerkins, Mrs. Battle and Miss Battle."

"On motion of Miss Holland the ladies decided to divide the funds in the treasury amounting to \$12.50cts. equally between the Foreign and State Mission Boards."

"The Society adjourned until the next meeting in July."

The giving increased as the membership increased; however, there was a decrease in both by December, 1888. "There were (seven) 7 members present. The collection amounted to \$2.15cts. Six dollars in Treasury being appropriated to Foreign Missions."

The secretary, Miss Jennie Battle, noted in March 1889, "The attendance was unusually small only 7 (seven) being present." "The Mite Boxes were opened and \$3.05 found to be the

amount thus contributed." Amt. on hand to date \$9.51."

Because of the small offerings, the ladies turned to other avenues. A motion was made and carried that the names of associate members be kept in a smaller book and that a different member collect each month.

By December 1891, the giving had taken on new dimensions. "Mrs. Duffy mentioned having pledged the Society at the Convention for \$5.00 toward the deficit of the State Board." "The approval of the Society was given and on motion of the president it was decided to raise it after the Christmas Offering."

"The recommendation that boxes of clothing be sent to Frontier Missionaries was discussed." The packing and sending of such boxes became a regular channel of sharing things that the ladies had."

Report of the Womans' Central Committee of N.
O. for Quarter Ending Feb. 28, 1895.

Atlantic Association—Vice-President, Mrs.
H. B. Duffy, Newbern—Goldsboro, \$6.99;
Pollocksville, 5.25; Kinston, 37 81; Newbern,
31.22; Mission band, Kinston, 6 25; Sun-
beams, Goldsboro, 10.00; Sunday-school,
Newbern, 8.24.

"The first three presidents of the Society were women of foresight and determination. They must have possessed great leadership abilities. The first president, Mrs. Annie M. Whitfield, served from the reorganizational meeting in 1886 until her husband resigned as pastor in October, 1887. Her service has already been mentioned. After she left the Society declined and no minutes were recorded until April 1888.

The Society met April 2nd 1888 at the call of the President, Mrs. S. J. (Susan) Dudley. The second president, Susan Slade Dudley, was the grand niece of John Brinson, one of the founders of the church. Her father, Zaccheus Slade, when just a small boy, assisted in hauling logs from the woodlands of his uncle John Brinson's plantation to the Neuse River to be floated about ten miles to New Berne to be sawed and used in the building of the first church.

The minutes of January 5, 1888 stated that the Society met at the home of Mrs. Dudley and they continued to say that at each meeting through June 1891. She opened her home for church meetings as her father had done before her. During the Civil War the present church building was occupied by Federal Troops as a storehouse for commissary supplies from October 10, 1862 to May 10, 1865. Brother Slade, Deacon opened his home for worship every Sabbath Afternoon. Mr. Slade bequeathed the house and lot at the corner of Broad and George Streets to his daughter for her lifetime and at her death to the Baptist Church at New Berne. It was truly a spot chosen by God for His work in New Berne. Proceeds from renting the house went into the Slade Mission Fund with view to establishing a mission in another area of town.



The third president, Mrs. Cullen A. Battle, was not overshadowed by her illustrious husband, son and grandson. She was the wife of Major General Cullen Andrews Battle, who was promoted for conspicuous gallantry at Gettysburg. He was wounded at Fredericksburg and was on the Command Staff at Chancellorsville. For a short time he edited the New Berne Journal. He was elected Mayor of New Berne on 8 May 1890. During World War II an Army Camp was opened at Glenburnie Park 2 miles north of New Bern and named Camp Battle for General Battle.

She was the mother of the Reverend Henry Wilson Battle, D.D. who served as pastor here from January 1888 to December 1890. He distinguished himself in other pastorates at Petersburg, Va. and Greensboro, N. C. He preached the annual sermon before the Southern Baptist Convention at Hot Springs, Ark., May 14, 1908 on, "The Everlasting Love of God."

Her grandson, John Battle, was the first child born in the new parsonage on Johnson Street. He later became the governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Last but not least, she was the mother of a daughter, Jennie, who served as secretary of the Society from December 1888 to December 1889.

For several years the Society Minutes were filled with Battle names. "Mrs. C. A. Battle, President, in the chair," "Jennie Battle, Secty," "Mrs. H. W. Battle, secty." But who was Sister G. F. Battle received by letter from Wadesboro, N.C. in July 1888 along with Bro. W. H. Battle and Sister Jennie Battle? And who was Sister Maggie H. Battle received by letter December 8, 1889 from Clinton Church? Sister Georgia Florida Williams Battle (Mrs. C.A.) was the pastor's mother. Dr. Henry Wilson Battle was a single man when he came to New Berne. Records show that on June 11, 1889, he married a Miss Margaret Stewart from Clinton, N.C. viz. Sister Maggie (Mrs. H. W.) Battle.

Mrs. C. A. Battle served ably from October 1891 to January 1895 when she resigned because of continued ill health. It was during her presidency that the Society endeavored to host the newly organized Atlantic Associational Women's Missionary Union in 1892.

It was through the leadership of these first three presidents and the foundations laid during those first crucial ten years that the Society was able to continue.

The ladies in the Society were an accomodating group of women, flexible and able to change their schedules. The, "Fair," was coming to New Berne on the first week in March so it was agreed to hold the next meeting on the 2nd Wednesday instead of the 1st Wednesday in March. "As the pastor would be absent the 3rd week it was decided that the 4th week would be observed as the Week of Prayer and Self Demial."

Letters were read from Miss Heck and Dr. Isaac T. Tichenor, Head of the Home Mission Board in regard to the Week of Prayer and Self Denial.

The Society was to meet in May in the, "Prayer Meeting Room," at the church. It is not known just where the Prayer Meeting Room was but it was a nice room to have. Wherever this room was, the president, Miss Wilson was in the chair and extracts from The Foreign Mission Journal con-

cerning work in Brazil were read. The Scripture Lesson for the day, Romans 10th chapter, was read responsively at the opening of the meeting.

The attendance at the June 1898 meeting was small by reason of the unfavorable weather and the collection was correspondingly meager. "The Society was glad to welcome Mrs. Hight C. Moore and to enroll her name on the register." The coming of The Reverend Hight C. Moore to the pastorate and Mrs. Moore to the Society was quite a boon to the women's mission work. They came to us from Monroe, N. C.; however, Mr. Moore began his ministry in neighboring Morehead City in 1890. Immediately upon her coming, Mrs. Moore was appointed a delegate to the Woman's Meeting in connection with State Convention. She served as the Society's Secretary 2 years. The minutes of the second annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Atlantic Association held in Middle Street Church, New Berne, Wednesday Afternoon, October 11, 1899 are signed, "Mrs. Hight C. Moore, President."

Mrs. Moore was the first woman from North Carolina to serve as a Trustee of The W.M.U. Training School. In 1907 she was elected Corresponding Secretary of the North Carolina Woman's Missionary Union. She also edited the W.M.U. page in the Biblical Recorder. We can understand why the ladies in New Berne were glad to welcome her in to their midst.

At the August Meeting a letter was read from Miss Heck calling attention to the fact that by its constitution each Society was pledged to include State Missions in its yearly contributions. Also a leaflet she had enclosed on, "The Power of United Prayer," was read. Her letter was heeded. The next meeting the treasurer reported \$8.10 as having been forwarded for State Missions, which amount was duly acknowledged in the Recorder.

Quite often a letter was read from the State President, Miss Fannie E. S. Heck. Most of the time neither the subject nor contents of the letters was revealed. It would be nice if at least one of her letters had been kept, or if we had kept an account of the number of times that the minutes recorded,



"A letter was read from Miss Heck." Her prolific pen was always busy for her beloved Union.

In November, "A Frontier Box," valued at \$44.35 was reported as having started on its mission to The Rev. Mr. Rogers, in the employ of The Home Board in Florida. In the December Meeting, "Highly appreciative letters were read from Mr. and Mrs. Rogers in acknowledgement of the frontier box. "Envelopes for the Christmas offering were distributed, also programmes for The Week of Prayer and ladies appointed to conduct the services."

**Let none hear you idly saying,
There is nothing I can do,
While the souls of men are dying,
And the Master calls for you.**

One hundred years ago there were no washing machines, no dryers, no frigidaire, no electric stoves and no fast foods. A homemaker's time was fully taken. She had very little time for outside activities. The women did not have the advantage of planned programs and scheduled mission projects, yet they found things to do through their own devices. It is recorded in the minutes of December 1891 that the roll was called and the members repeated a verse of Scripture in response to their names.

In October 1892 a motion was made that our Society hold a session during the Association which is to be held here Oct. 11 to 13. In addition to that, the entertainment of the delegates was discussed.

They busied themselves with the matter of enlistment and attendance. There was a constant concern for all of the women in the church to be active in the Society. On November 1st 1890, "There were nine members present." A committee was appointed consisting of Mrs. H. B. Duffy and Mrs. Geo. Brinson to visit the members of the church and revive interest in the Society."

It was not reported how many members were present at the

Febry. 1891 meeting but, "The committee on visiting asked indulgence." They probably needed it because the attendance at the July 1891 meeting was poor. "The regular meeting of the Society was held at Mrs. H. B. Duffy's - Mrs Gates, Mrs Smaw, Mrs Ford and Miss Sallie Wilson present." In October there were six members present. "Mrs Ford suggested that Mrs Duffy get the names of the ladies who were willing to contribute regularly to the Society."

Attendance was still a concern in November 1892. "A motion was made that five ladies be appointed to solicit members." The motion was carried and the following were appointed, Mrs. Gates, Mrs. Smaw, Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Duffy and Mrs. Churchill. "Mrs Duffy promised to see some of the absent members so as to get their contribution before the meeting of the convention." In December it was recorded that, "The ladies of the Society feel very much encouraged at the increased attendance."

Small membership and poor attendance continued to be a problem. In November 1893 Mrs. Whitty and Mrs. Ford were appointed a committee to see absentees. Dosen't that have a familiar ring?

The women were diligent in seeing that they had representatives at the State Conventions. Mrs. H. B. Duffy and Mrs. Hugh Lane were appointed delegates to represent the Society at the Convention to be held at Elizabeth City in December 1893.

The minutes of the first months in 1894 were very sparse, consisting of only three or four lines. There were no minutes from April to November 1894, which was indicative of low attendance. The president was absent in December because of ill health and the Pastor, Mr. Ford, conducted the meeting. The ladies were still working on being represented at the Conventions and keeping abreast of what the State Organization was planning and doing. "Mrs. H. B. Duffy was appointed delegate to the Convention to be held at Charlotte this month."

It seems that the Visitation Committee had no further need of indulgence because it was noted that, "Several new members were present," at the meeting of the New Year, January 1895.

Ever anxious to cooperate and follow suggestions, The Society decided to observe the, "Week of Self-denial," as requested by the Home Board of S.B.C." This record of March 1895 was the first mention of a week of Self-denial. Our women wanted to join others of Woman's Missionary Union to help the debt ridden Home mission Board to keep missionaries on the field.

Woman's Missionary Union was to pray and practice self-denial during a week in January and take an offering to raise money above their usual offering. The week was observed every year and an offering taken for Home Missions. In 1934 the name was changed to, "Annie Armstrong Offering for Home Missions." We know it today as the , "Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions."

The membership was dealt such a severe blow in the spring of 1895 that the Society disbanded until September. "The Woman's Missionary Society of the First Baptist Church, at the call of the President, Mrs. Thos. Gates, met at the Parsonage for re-organization Sept. 5th, 1895. Much reduced in membership by removals and colonization since its last meeting in April, few ladies assembled. Those present were, Mrs. Gates, Mrs. Brinson, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Montague, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. B. B. Lane, Miss Wilson and Mrs. Jerkins." "The late Treasurer, Miss Ford, having removed from the city and the Recording and Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. H. B. Duffy, having removed her membership to a sister church, those offices were declared vacant, and Mrs. Samuel J. Porter and Mrs. Susan C. Jerkins were respectively elected to those positions."

The colonization referred to was the organization of the Second Baptist Church. Some of the members of our church, men and women, realized the need for a ministry to the people in the western part of New Berne. Early in 1893 they began a Mission Sunday School in the rear of a store building on the corner of Pollock and Norwood Streets. This was some seven blocks from First Baptist Church on Middle Street. This seems rather close distance to establish another church, but these people walked dry, dusty streets or muddy lanes to worship.

Seven blocks could be a long walk in the hot summer or cold winter.

At the Church Conference, April 9, 1895, the clerk read a letter from several members requesting letters of dismissal from the church to form a second Baptist Church. Letters were granted and the newly organized church was first known as, "Second Baptist Church." This church is now situated at the corner of Broad and George Streets and its name is "Tabernacle Baptist Church."

The ladies worked hard to restore the membership of its mission organization. They had lost some key women, among them, Mrs. H. B. Duffy and Mrs. Sallie J. Mitchell.

Following the organization of the Second Baptist Church, the Society moved quickly in October 1895 to change its name. "After a free Conference, the name of the Society was changed from, 'The Ladies Society of New Bern Baptist Church' to 'The Woman's Missionary Society of The First Baptist Church of New Bern.'"

Continuing to work in all areas, those same minutes recorded, "An effort to interest the Society in the "Yates Memorial resulted in a collection of \$1.50 for that object and pledges from the ladies, to be paid at an early day."

Dr. Matthew T. Yates was that North Carolina Missionary who went to China in 1846, whose ordination was officiated and attended by several of the pastors of our church as mentioned earlier. Dr. Yates died in China in 1888. The Woman's Missionary Societies decided to send a new missionary to China as a, "Living Memorial." Surely the women in New Berne wanted to have a part in memorializing this great missionary and his wife. The minutes of December 1895 recorded that \$3.00 was forwarded to the "Yates Memorial." In March 1896 a letter was read from Miss Heck appealing for an additional sum for the, "Yates Memorial." Some six years later, January 8th 1902, very short minutes stated, "The society observed Wednesday as the Week of Prayer. Our collection was for the Yates Missionary in China, and amounted to \$8.50."

The women's lives were characterized by prayer. It seemed

to permeate their meetings and mission efforts. Every meeting was opened with Devotional Exercises and Prayer.

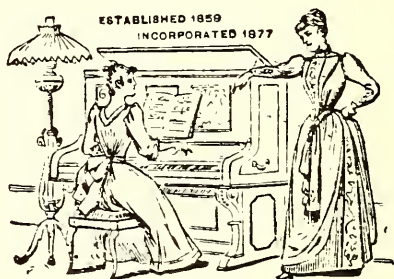
The first monthly meeting of the year 1896 was held Wednesday, January 8th. "The Society having assembled for the two previous afternoons in observance of the Week of Prayer *this* meeting was characterized by a more devotional spirit." This was the first mention of, "The week of Prayer;" however, these weeks became a part of the Society. Special objects of prayer were mentioned many times.

"Encouraging extracts from the minutes of Annual Meeting in Greensboro were read." This must have been an uplifting meeting. The minutes noted that the Society adjourned with the Doxology.

The ladies had been meeting at the Parsonage and in the homes. It was moved that the Society request the use of the Annex in the rear of the church for its place of meeting and the motion was unanimously carried.

Something new was begun.

"February 1896 the Society met in the Annex of the church, the president, Mrs. Gates conducting Devotional Exercises and Mrs. J. M. Brinson presiding at the organ." Now there could be music. This was a nice addition. The account of later meetings mentioned that the Exercises were interspersed with music.



The minutes of many of the meetings were routine, always stating; however, that Devotional Exercises were held as in June 1896, "The President read a selection from the Psalms after which a prayer was offered." "The secretary read a communication from Miss Heck announcing the completion of the Yates Memorial Fund, and urging the sisters to get more liberal contributions to aid in liquidating the indebtedness of the two Boards."

The attendance seemed to lag in the summer months. There were only four members present at the August 1896 Meeting. Mrs. Smith was requested and consented to call upon the absentees, to urge their attendance and solicit their contributions for the month.

The fall attendance was not much better. The November minutes began. "Owing to the inclemency of the weather no regular meeting was held. Mrs. Montague, Mrs. Marshall and Miss Wilson dropped in at different homes, bringing contributions for themselves and others." "Amount handed over to the Treasurer, \$3.00. Amount reported to Mrs. Briggs for the quarter ending with November, \$7.00 to be equally divided between Home and Foreign Missions." Mrs. J. A. Briggs was Treasurer of the North Carolina Woman's Missionary Union.

The New Year started off with a larger attendance than for many months. "The Society decided to hold Prayer Meetings on Thursday and Friday afternoons in partial observance of, "The Week of Prayer." The Christmas Offering for Missions in China was received amounting to \$5.25."

In February, 1897, it was noted, "In the absence of the President and Vice-president by reason of domestic affliction, Mrs. Porter was called to the chair and conducted Devotional Exercises." The nature of, "domestic afflictions," is not clear.

The spirit of cooperation with the State Union and a willingness to participate in new programs was seen in the March Meeting. "Some correspondence with Miss Heck and Mrs. Briggs with reference to the society's work was reported and attention was called to the new feature of Neighborhood Missions. After an informal discussion of the subject, the ladies decided to attempt something in that direction - at least to the limited extent of visiting and contributing to the necessities of the needy and afflicted, and when practicable, holding religious services with them."

"The Week of Self Denial," was not observed in March. "After a free and easy discussion of the question of observing a Week of Self Denial in April for the benefit of the Home Mission Board it was thought that a larger amount would be realized by

appropriating this month's collection to that object than by a Week of Self Denial." "With that view several ladies increased their usual contributions, swelling the amount of the monthly collection to \$5.26.

There was a slip backwards in May. "The weather being unpropitious the attendance was somewhat reduced, those present being, Miss Wilson, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Brinson, Miss Clark, Mrs. Montague and Mrs. Jerkins."

Still open to suggestions, the members responded to a need in the fall. "In response to a letter from Miss Heck enclosing an appeal from Miss Armstrong, the ladies decided to undertake the preparation of a box for a Frontier Missionary, requesting the aid of the church in furnishing contributions." Miss Fannie Heck was the beloved President of the North Carolina Woman's Missionary Union as well as the President of Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention. Miss Annie W. Armstrong was the Venerable Corresponding Secretary of the Southern Union.

"The Society gratefully acknowledged the assistance of several ladies beyond its bounds in the increased collection for the month - they paying subscriptions they had made to the church through this channel."

Collections seemed to have increased. Those received at the October Meeting were \$13.65 and were divided among Home Missions, State Missions and Foreign Missions. Notations were made at the bottom of the minutes from time to time that, "The above amount was acknowledged by the State Treasurer in the *Recorder* of Nov. 24th, 1897."

The year closed on a rather low note as reflected in the December 1897 minutes. "In consequence of a Bible Reading at church at the hour appointed for the meeting, the attendance was small, so the usual exercises were dispensed with." There were only four ladies present; however, three others sent their contribution. No delegate was appointed to the State Meeting because, "No lady consenting to represent the Society at the Woman's meeting in Oxford, no delegate was appointed."

The year of 1898 began in prayer. "The Society met at the

home of Mrs. Jerkins, having assembled at the Parsonage the previous afternoon in partial observance of the Week of Prayer." The ingathering of the Christmas Offering for China amounted to \$5.65. The Christmas Offerings were begun by the Southern W.M.U. as the result of a request from Miss Lottie Moon for money to send two new missonaries to China. According to the records, the New Berne Society had participated in the offerings since Christmas of 1891. The Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering are still a vital part of our Society.

The year also began with a new name appearing among the ladies present. Miss Fannie Holland became a valuable member of the Society as well as the church. She served many years as church Organist and as a Sunday School Teacher. Her work with the children in Sunday School and Sunbeams is well known and scattered across the pages of our Church History. One of our senior members, Mrs. H. B. Jones, age 90, knew, "Miss Fannie," and spoke of her work with the children. The Church Minutes of November 2, 1899 carry a request to hang curtains from the gallery to partition off room for Miss Fannie Holland's Infant Class in Sunday School. On February 11, 1900 a Special Conference was called for the purpose of asking the church, "to grant permission to Sister Fannie Holland to raise money for the purpose of enlarging the Annex of the church by either brick or frame. Addition for accomodation of her Sunday School Class."

The year 1899 began on a high note. In observance of the Week of Prayer, services were conducted by Mrs. Churchill and were participated in by several ladies. The attendance was unusually large, including six ladies who were not members of the Society. A new member, Miss Alice Smith, requested that her name be enrolled on the Society's Register.

Miss Heck's pen was still at work, her letter was read in March, urging greater sacrifices and the extension of the Society's work.

The summer meetings reported the usual Devotional Exercises, Programs and Offerings for Missions. "At the suggestion of Miss Heck a special service for Thanksgiving and

Thank Offering was held at the church on the evening of July 2nd, the pastor presenting the claims of the Society."

The summer slump was evident in the two and a half line minutes for August. "No meeting and no collection - Miss Wilson and Mrs. Lucas being the only ladies present at the regular appointment."

"The ladies discussed the preparation of a Box for Home Missions and authorized the secretary to write to Miss Heck for the name and address of a Frontier Missionary. Two letters were read urging the importance of this branch of Christian Beneficence." This took place September 6th when a few ladies met at the parsonage.

The principal business before the meeting in October was the further discussion of the Frontier Missionary Box and the programme for the Associational Union, the date which was fixed for the afternoon of October 10th, 1899. Mrs. Montague was appointed to represent the Society and read its report. That meeting was held and the report was given: "New Bern-Middle Street-President, Miss Sarah Wilson; Secretary Mrs. S. C. Jenkins."

Contributions for State Missions	\$15.45
Contributions for Home Missions	\$52.35
Contributions for Foreign Missions	\$23.60
Amount on Hand	\$ 6.90
Total	\$98.30



Even though The Sunbeam Band had not been mentioned in the minutes, a report from the Band was given at that meeting of the Associational W.M.U.

"New Bern, Middle Street, Sunbeams - President, Miss Lottie Jordan, Secretary, Miss Alberta Snellings; members 25."

Contributions for Missions	\$17.00
Contributions for Orphanage	\$ 7.00
Contributions for Poor of Sunday School	\$ 6.00
Amount on Hand	\$ 5.08
Total	\$35.08

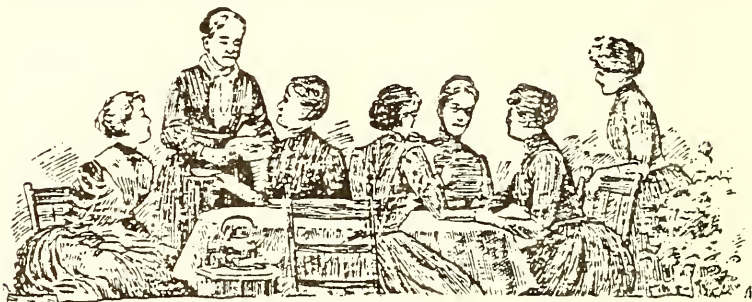
We know that there was an active Sunbeam Band as early as 1892. In the monthly Church Conference in March of that year the Sunbeam Society is listed as having given \$50.00 for Church Repairs. At a Special Conference October 16, 1892, Subscriptions were taken to support a missionary whose home should be in New Berne and whose duty would be to preach in the surrounding county and endeavor to win souls for Christ. The Sunbeam Society was listed as pledging \$3.00.

The last meeting was on a dismal note, December 1899. "A few ladies viz Miss Wilson, Mrs. Whitty, Mrs. Brinson and Mrs. Jerkins assembled at church in the regular meeting of the Society the 1st Wednesday in December. The President, Miss Wilson conducted brief Devotional Exercises, and a collection of \$2.85 was received. The meagre attendance and cold quarters prevented the transaction of any further business." Thus ended the first fourteen years of the Missionary Society.

Even when attendance was poor and collections dropped, the ladies remained zealous as denoted in the following minutes: "The regular meeting of the Society was held at the Parsonage. The Pres., Mrs. C. A. Battle in the Chair. The meeting was opened with religious exercises conducted by the Pastor. The Constitution and by laws were read." The following ladies were present: Mrs. Battle, Mrs. Ford, Mrs. Jerkins, Miss Ford, Miss Wilson and Mrs. Duffy. Miss Ford and Mrs. Duffy were appointed to collect dues of those not present." Collection \$3.25. The meeting then adjourned to meet the first Wednesday in Nov."

The women of the Society were generous and free hearted and the men granted them full expression of their generosity. In a special Church Conference, Thursday Evening Feb'y. 2, 1899, "The following resolution is introduced by Bro. C.C. Clark and adopted unanimously:"

Resolved: "That it is the sense of the Church that the rule requiring money to be paid into the Treassury does not apply to



Office of The Home Mission Board, S. B. C.

Atlanta, Ga. 2/14/1898

Received Box Val. Forty Two 35 Dollars
 from L. E. G. W. Newbern N. C.
 by Miss Annie W. Armstrong
 for Frontier Missions

\$ 14.30

J. L. Litchner Cor Sec

The Franklin Printing and Publishing Co., Atlanta, Ga.

Office of The Home Mission Board, S. B. C.

1 Feb Atlanta, Ga. Dec 13 1897

Received Forty five 50 Dollars
 from W. M. S. Newbern N. C.
 by Miss Annie W. Armstrong
 for Frontier Missions

\$ 45.00

J. L. Litchner Cor Sec

The Franklin Printing and Publishing Co., Atlanta, Ga.

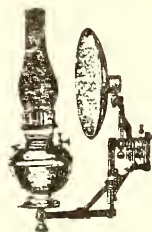
‘the woman’s missionary society’ and that said society had the right to dispose of and remit all funds raised by it for missions in any manner it may adopt for its own government.”

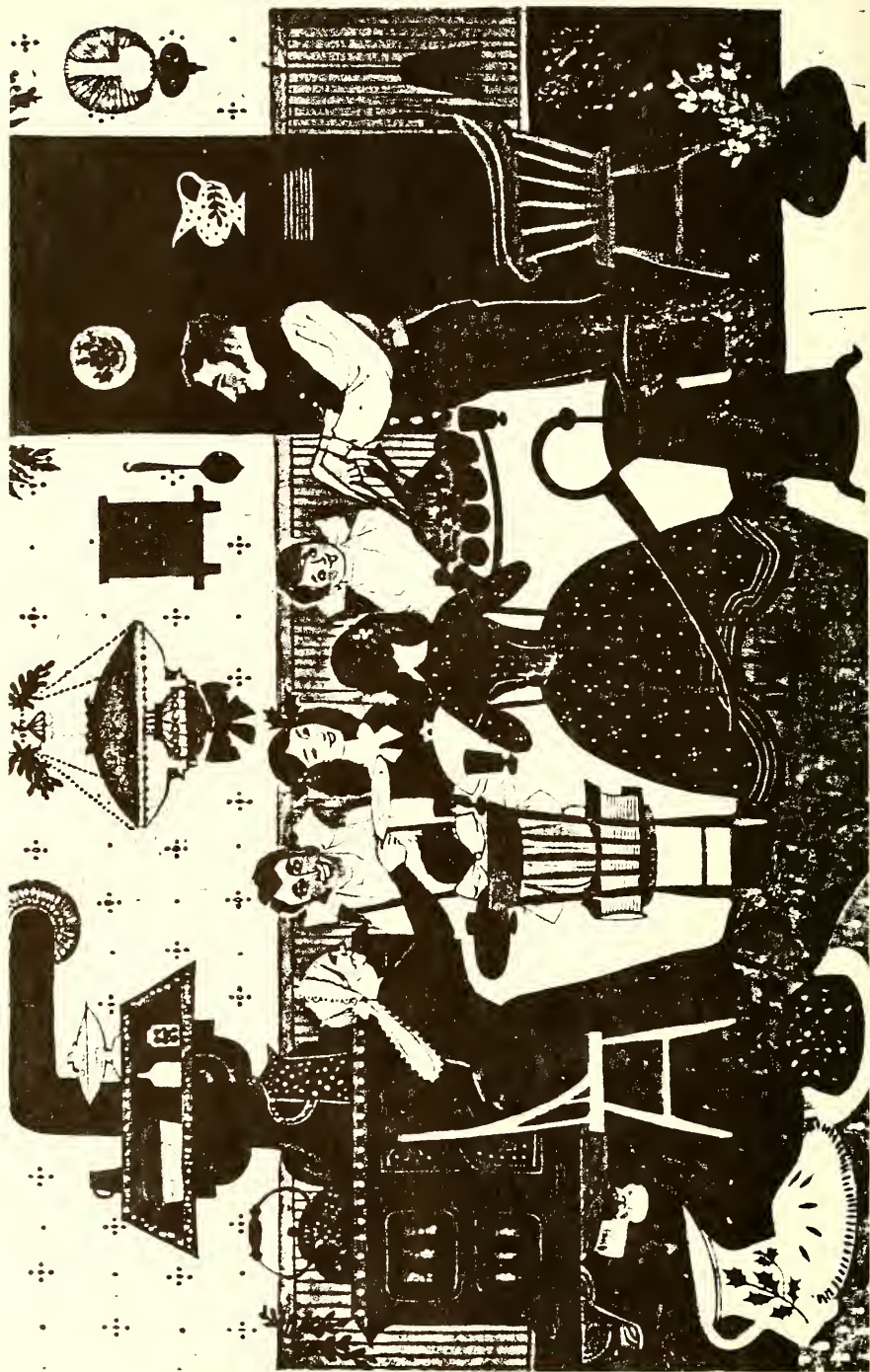
Even though the Society was at a somewhat low ebb at the close of the 19th Century, much had been accomplished in the brief fourteen years of its existence. The organization and maintaining of the Society was a feat within itself. They met and labored against great odds. They walked to their meeting on the days when the weather was favorable. Many times the meetings were postponed because of the inclemency of the weather or the attendance was poor because of unfavorable weather. Many times the minutes stated that the ladies met in homes or at the parsonage because it was so cold in the church annex. There was no instant heating or cooling. Nearly every summer it was noted that the meeting time was changed to 4:30 P.M. or 5:00 P.M. because of the intense heat.

The lighting must have been poor with only gas lights in the church and annex. The phrase, “Energy Efficient” was not in their vocabulary.

The receipts for the Frontier Missionary Boxes and reports were pinned with straight pins to the pages of the Ledger Book in which the minutes were written. Some of them are still there although they have rusted through the years. They did not enjoy the luxury of paper clips, staples and scotch tape.

They had heard the Voice of their Master and they responded with zeal and devotion to His Missionary Call. They gave themselves in Bible Study, Prayer, Stewardship and the Study of Missions. They shared themselves and their possessions. As you read those old minutes, these words echo between the lines, “Take the task he gives you gladly, let his work your pleasure be, answer quickly when He calleth, Here am I, send me.”





The Ladies Missionary Society of the New-Berne Baptist Church.

On the 7th of Nov. 1886 a Meeting was held in the Church for the reorganization of the Ladies Missionary Society of New-Berne Baptist Church.

Mrs. Annie M. Whitfield was elected President of the Society for the term of six months.

The Society then adjourned to meet at the Baptist Parsonage at a time designated by the Pastor.

Otho Whitfield, Sec. pro tem.

24 Nov. 1886

The L. M. Society met at the Parsonage.

The following Constitution was adopted.

Section 1. This Society shall be called
The Ladies Missionary Society of the New-Berne
Baptist Church.

Sec. 2. Its object shall be the support of
missions, as prosecuted by the Southern Baptist
Convention & by the N.C. Baptist State Convention.

Sec. 3. It shall be comprised of all persons
who are willing to contribute not less than one cent
a week to its object. To facilitate the collection
of this money each person or family desiring it
will be supplied with a Mite-Box in which to deposit
their contributions.

Sec. 4. A Collecting Committee shall be ap-
pointed for a term of six months, whose duty it shall
be to keep a list of all boxes given, to collect all
contributions for the Society monthly, & to pay the same
to the Treasurer of the Society.

Sec. 5. The officers of this Society shall be
a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Corres-
ponding Secretary, & a Treasurer; to be elected at

each Semi-annual meeting, & shall hold their offices until a new election.

Sec. 6. The President, or in her absence the Vice President shall preside at all meetings of the Society: And to present at the Semi-Annual Meeting a full report of its progress during the term then closed.

Sec. 7. The Treasurer shall receive all money, keep an accurate account of the same, and report at each meeting the amounts received. Either quarterly or Semi-Annually, the Treasurer shall pay out the money received, as directed by the Society.

Sec. 8. The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Society, and shall communicate at least once a term the condition of the Society to the Woman's Central Committee, at Raleigh, N.C.

Sec. 9. The Secretary shall give notice, when necessary, of the meetings of the Society, record the proceedings, & keep a list of the members.

Sec. 10. The Semi-Annual Meeting shall be in May and November.

Sec. 11. This Society shall meet on Wednesday preceding the first Thursday in each month, & the meeting should be opened with religious services.

Sec. 12. Changes may be made in this Constitution only at the Semi-Annual meeting.

The following officers were then elected for the term ending with the Semi-annual meeting in May 1887.

Vice President Mrs. C. Gray.

Secretary, Mrs. Fannie Lewis.

Corresponding Secretary Miss Bessie Whitfield.

Treasurer Miss Sadie Wilson.

Mrs. Ketter Barrow, Mrs. Churchill & Mrs. D. G. Searles were appointed a Committee to appoint a Collecting Committee of such number as they may think best.

The Society then adjourned.

Mr. A. M. Whitfield, President.

S. Whitfield, Sec. pro tem.

Dec. 1st 1886

The Society met, Mr. A. M. Whitfield, presiding.

The 2nd Psalm was read, and prayer made.

Collections were made from a few members.

The President read the Report on Missions recently made to the N. C. Baptist State Convention at Wilmington.

Mr. A. G. Jenkins read a little book on the Chinese.

On Motion of Mrs. Julia Roundtree, the Treasurer was authorized to buy books for the Secretary & Treasurer with any funds on hand.

Mr. Whitfield distributed some Missionary papers received by Mrs. A. T. Jenkins.

The Society then adjourned.

Mr. A. M. Whitfield, Pres.



1888



1898

Chapter II

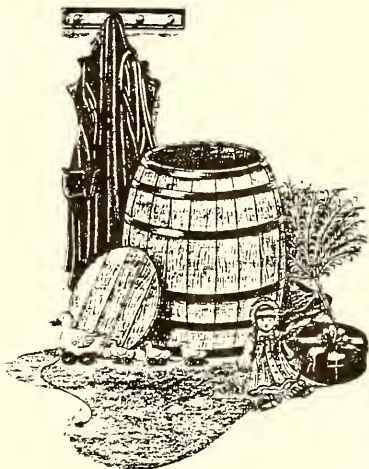
The Task Is Gladly Taken

**“Loud and long The Master calleth,
Rich reward He offers free,
Who will answer gladly saying,
Here am I, send me, send me.”**

What did the Twentieth Century hold for this little band of women who had labored so faithfully in the Master's Vineyard?

Promptly in January a letter was received from Miss Heck enclosing an outline of work for the Society for this year as recommended by the women meeting recently at the State Convention in Asheville. An appreciative letter from a Frontier Missionary in Texas was read acknowledging the receipt of a barrel of clothing from the Society.

Back in the old days they called them
“missionary barrels.”



In February a letter was read from the Rev. C. B. Paul, a missionary within the bounds of our Association requesting prayer for a blessing on his work. There is no other information available on Mr. Paul and his work.

"A letter was also read from the Rev. B. W. Spilman, asking a contribution for Sunday School Missions. The Society pledged \$5.00 payable at some time during the Conventional Year." How could they refuse the, "Genial Sunday School Man." One who had served them as supply pastor for two months in the summer of 1894 and had endeared himself to the folks in the Association through prior pastorates here. Just two months before his letter was read to the Society, he was married to Miss Agnes Mozelle Pollock of Kinston, N. C. She was the sister of New Bern's own physician, Dr. Raymond Pollock, who was also a member of First Baptist.

The Turn of the Century brought about the death of one of the Society's first members. A statement in the minutes of April 4, 1900 follows: "Resolutions of Respect to the memory of our lately deceased sister, Mrs. Thomas Gates, were cordially adopted."

TRIBUTE OF RESPECT

"We, the Woman's Missionary Society of Middle St. Baptist Church, come with burdened hearts to this, our April Meeting. During the past month Death has invaded our ranks and called from the scene of her earthly labors to the Mansions of Rest, the most venerable of our number and the ripest in Christian Experience, our beloved sister, Mrs. Thomas Gates." Desiring to give feeble expression to our appreciation of her worth and our sorrow over her sudden removal,"

"Resolved, 1st. That in the death of Mrs. Gates we sustain the loss of one of our most efficient members, efficient as our President in former years, but none the less active and zealous after laying aside the duties of office, - one who esteemed it a privilege to contribute of her means, or lead devotions, or to lift her voice in our meetings in behalf of every phase of Christian Work."

2nd. "That in this old fashioned type of piety, still further illustrated in the tender ministries of home, in deeds of charity

abroad, and in devotion to her church and its services, we recognize an example worthy of our faithful imitation."

3rd. "That this memorial be spread upon our Society's Register and a copy be sent to the family of our sister, with an assurance of our sympathy in their bereavement, and also to the *Biblical Recorder* for publication, that others than ourselves may be stimulated to more love to the Master and more zeal to His cause."

Miss Sarah Wilson, Pres.
Mrs. Susan C. Jerkins, Secy.

New Bern, N. C.
April 4th, 1900

Always ready to accomodate, the ladies rescheduled their June meeting because the Annual Sunday School Picnic occurred on the regular meeting day of the Society.

They were able to continue meeting during the summer months.

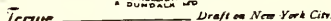
In September, two committees were appointed, one to solicit new members for the Society and the other for the quarterly collection of dues from delinquent members.

The first two years of the New Century moved along with the usual things taking place, Bible Devotions, Prayer, Study of Missions and Offerings for Missions. The Week of Self Denial was observed and the Christmas offering taken. Boxes were prepared and sent to Frontier Missionaries.

The minutes of April 1902 state, "Our meeting was conducted by Mrs. Follett from Durham, and the exercises were greatly enjoyed." "There were thirteen present and our collection was \$2.40." Pres. Miss Sarah Wilson - Secy. - Mrs. Hight C. Moore." Mrs. C. M. V. Follett was employed by the State W.M.U. or Central Committee as, General Organizer," to help in organizing new societies. She returned some three years later. The May 1905 minutes recorded, "Mrs. Follett made a talk at the May Meeting."

Routine was the order. In November's meeting the subject was the Woman's Missionary Union and an interesting article

The ladies closed the year by contributing \$36.34 on the purchase of a new fifteen hundred and twenty two pound bell for the church. The women were glad to hear the ringing of a larger bell sounding forth the news that others might hear the voice of Jesus calling.



The above mentioned Bell is warranted to be of the best workmanship throughout, composed exclusively of BEST GRADE NEW COPPER and IMPURED & IMPROVED. It will give good, clear, tone satisfactory to purchaser and not to crack by regular usage within ~~several~~ ^{the} ~~years~~ ^{next} from this date. Should it so crack within time specified, immediate notice be given us, we will give a new one of same size and quality in FREE EXCHANGE for cracked one, the purchaser only to pay the FREIGHT CHARGES on cracked Bell and new Bell in exchange.

To Foreign Missions	\$22.33
To State Missions	14.48
To Home Missions	58.90
Balance on Hand	<u>2.29</u>
Making a total of	\$98.00

The years of 1904 and 1905 followed the usual pattern, Box for Frontier Missionary, Observance Week of Self Denial and Mission Offerings; however, the Society decided to send its May collection for educational purposes. They still felt a strong need for prayer and agreed to meet ten minutes before the regular meeting for Prayer Meeting. There were five new members in June. The monthly collection was \$2.80 and The Sewing Society kindly sent 90 cents.

The report to the Association showed two new items, Associational Missions and Students Fund. The Society observed June 13, 1905 as State Missions Day. A Mission Barrell was packed at the home of Mrs. J. C. Whitty, November 9th. and was valued at \$63.19.



In December, the Ladies decided to hold Prayer Meetings four afternoons beginning on Tuesday Afternoon.

Mrs. Mitchell closed the year of 1905 on a High Note by suggesting that, "every member ought to take the Foreign Missions Journal and each bring it with her to the meetings."

The year 1906 began with the unanimous election of the Pastor's Wife, Mrs. W. A. Ayers, as president. At the Roll Call in February, several members responded to their names with, "Missionary Quotations."

The offering in March was divided among the following objects, Self Denial Offering \$15.00, Tichenor Memorial, \$3.91, Margaret Home, \$3.00 and Expense Fund, \$1.00. Two of these objects were new. Margaret Home for Missionary Children was opened in 1905 in Greenville, S.C.

Tichenor Memorial was to raise funds for a Church Building and Loan Fund as a Memorial to Isaac Taylor Tichenor, Former

Secretary of the Home Mission Board. He was a friend to the women and befriended them in their effort to organize.

In November a letter was read from Miss Heck asking for extra contributions for the Tichenor Memorial Fund. In December it was recorded, "The Young Ladies Society sent a contribution of \$2.52 which was added to the amount already collected for Tichenor Memorial."

Again the Society had followed the State Union. The women had been busy organizing the young women in mission endeavors.

A rather strange sentence appeared in the June minutes. "The Society met in the Old Methodist Church." Had the women reverted to those days of 1888 in Richmond, Va.? No, our Sanctuary was being renovated and our Methodist Sisters graciously offered the church facilities for the ladies to use. The Old Methodist Church was located in the 500 block of New Street about a block and a half from our first church building.

The renovation period was a time of excitement; however there were mixed emotions relative to the elimination of the Side Galleries. Some felt that it would enhance the comfort and appearance of the church's interior but would manifestly curtail the seating capacity, which on unusual occasions might be overtaxed.

The Church Minutes of March 22, 1906, carried the following: "On motion, authority is given the ladies of the church to attend to the matter of selecting and purchasing carpet."

The year closed on a sad note for many members. More was lost and destroyed of the Old Historic Church than the side galleries.

The Society decided to observe four days during the Week of Prayer in January, 1907. The first two to be held at the parsonage and the others at the home of the president, Mrs. Rosa Smith. The Christmas Offering would be taken up on Wednesday. The ladies were interested in seeing that they were represented as the State W.M.U. meeting in April. They appointed the secretary, Mrs. R.P. Montague as a delegate

DUPLICATE.

Fill and Return to M.....

Vice-President of Your Association.

REPORT OF THE WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY

Enid Batten ^{OF} *New Bern* Church, *1903*
Atlantic Association,

has contributed the following amounts to the objects named during the quarter:

	1st Quarter Ending Feb. 28.	2d Quarter Ending May 31.	3d Quarter Ending August 31.	4th Quarter Ending Nov. 30.	Annual Report.
{ Foreign Missions.....	\$.....	\$ 6.35	\$.....	\$ 10.74	\$ 33.07
{ Christian Offering.....					
{ Home Missions.....		8.00			8.00
{ Week of Self-Denial.....					
{ Value Box to Home Missionary.....				47.00	47.00
{ State Missions.....		2.85	8.98		11.83
{ Thanksgiving Day.....					
Totals.....		17.20	8.98	57.74	99.90

NEIGHBORHOOD MISSIONS.

"He that winneth souls is wise."

Number of Cottage Prayer-meetings in charge of Society.....

Woman's or Children's Sewing-school in charge of Society.....

Number of Missionary Societies organized.....

Number of Members in Society.....

Average Attendance.....

Number of Foreign Mission Journals taken.....

Number of Home Fields taken.....

(Signed)..... President,

Post-office.....

Secretary,

Post-office.....

Be careful to state name of Church and Association and whether Mrs. or Miss.

IMPORTANT—Money given by the Society to Missions can only be reported in the Quarterly report of the Woman's Central Committee, when sent in the name of the Society to Mr. Walters Durham, Treasurer of the Baptist State Convention, Raleigh, N. C., or reported to Mrs. W. S. Jones, Raleigh. Send in money regularly each Quarter, and report the same carefully and promptly.

Keep exact copy of reports sent in your Treasurer's book. If mistakes occur in Quarterly Report of Central Committee, notify Mrs. Jones at once.

Only Societies contributing to Missions are entitled to free literature, etc., sent out by the Central Committee. The names of Societies not reporting for a year will be stricken from their books. The Central Committee can only know that a Society is at work by contributions to Missions sent in the name of the Society.

The Treasurer of a Society is requested to render an Annual Report of all money received to the Clerk of the Church of which the Society is a part, this Report to be incorporated in the Letter of the Church to the Association.

to the meeting in Goldsboro. Mrs. Ayers wrote a paper on Mountain Schools which was given as the program in May. Miss Heck asked that collection for Expense Fund of ten cents per member be taken in May. This fund was the only source of money for travel and office expense in the State Office.

State Missions Day was to be observed in September. Enlistment was still on their minds. The Secretary was instructed to write for leaflets to be used in enlisting new members for the Society.

In October, Mrs. Z. V. Parker sent in her name as a new member. She was the wife of Dr. Z. V. Parker, D.D.S., a great Christian Layman. Mrs. Parker was very active and supportive of Woman's Missionary Union for many years. Names are now appearing in the minutes whom many of us now in W.M.U. remember when we were Sunbeams, G.A.'s and Y.W.A.'s.

In November, the Society sent \$3.00 for Margaret House and \$6.00 for the Woman's Training School. Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention took over full ownership and control of the Training School in May of 1907. Our women were eager to support this new endeavor under the leadership of its president, Miss Fannie E. S. Heck.

The attendance was up somewhat. Seventeen members were present in January 1908. Two new members, Mrs. Garrett and Mrs. Lancaster were reported in February. Mrs. Charles Hall acted as Secretary Pro. Tem. There was a discussion in March that each member should try to get a new member.

Interest and support were still manifested in the Training School. April's minutes recorded, "Miss Holland sent \$3.00, Mrs. Jerkins 50¢ for the Training School. The Society was to put \$1.50 of its collection and make \$5.00 for current expenses of the Training School. Extra collection for Endowment Training School, \$30.25.

In June Mrs. Kittie E. Brinson died. In the tribute to their faithful co-worker these are some of the words that showed their love and esteem. "Mrs. Brinson was one of our oldest and most faithful members, having been identified with us in missions work for many years prior to the organization of our W.M.U. To all objects of our Society she was a liberal contributor and until

debarred by declining health, she was a regular and interested attendant upon its meetings.' Nor were her charities in response only to the appeals of our Society and congregation. In the true spirit of missions she opened her heart and her purse to the call of the needy and distressed, without regard to church affiliation or denominational lines." She was beloved and would be missed by the women at First Baptist.

The program for December was, "Progress made in China From 1807 to 1907." "A letter was read from Dr. Willingham." We can only assume that the writer of that letter was Dr. J. R. Willingham, Corresponding Secretary, Foreign Mission Board, SBC. I think that we can be safe in assuming that the good ladies responded, probably with an offering for Foreign Missions, as we do every December through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Could there have been a better way to end the eighth year of the new century than in sharing the gospel through Foreign Missions?

The minutes of February 1909 reported 19 members present, collection \$9.00. One new member, Mrs. Greaves. She was the wife of the pastor, Charles L. Greaves. Mrs. Greaves was elected Chairman of the Personal Service Committee of the North Carolina Woman's Missionary Union in 1928 and served for 12 years. She was living in Raleigh at that time and her husband was pastor of Tabernacle Baptist Church of that city. Mrs. Greaves' name appeared quite often as leading the prayers. She suggested that the Society have a definite aim for the year and that aim should be to double the number of members in the Society and that \$200.00 be a definite money aim. The members continued to solicit funds for the Training School Endowment Fund. In May the ladies who had been appointed to solicit funds handed the treasurer \$15.15.

The president, Mrs. Josephine Snellings and Mrs. Greaves led a discussion at the June meeting on how to increase membership and contributions. And we thought that was something new! Enlistment and gifts seem to be a never ending quest. It was suggested that the Society have a social and an interesting program in October and invite all women members of the church to come and then try to enlist them as members.

The power of suggestion is strong! There were seven new members at the September meeting.

"The Society held its regular October meeting and Enlistment Meeting at the usual place and hour, the vice-pres. Mrs. Mitchell, presiding. Meeting opened with Hymn, 'From Greenland's Icy Mountains,' followed by prayer by Miss Wilson. Scripture Reading, 1st Cor. 13th by Mrs. Mitchell. The object of the Enlistment Meeting was explained by Mrs. Mitchell. Solo by Mrs. Charles Hall. Reading: 'Something Great,' by Mrs. Greaves. Reading: 'Who Will Open the Door,' by Miss Wood, Duet: Mrs. Pratt and Kehoe. Reading: 'Do Missions Pay?' by Miss Ray. Solo: Mrs. Oglesby; 13 members enrolled. Mrs. Whitty, Mrs. Wood and Mrs. A. L. Willis were appointed delegates to the Associational Meeting to be held at Winterville.' Plans were made to pack a Missionary Box."

"After the program was finished, a social hour was spent during which time refreshments of cake and cream were served by the Society to all present. There were 42 present, members and visitors.

The Enlistment Meeting was highly successful. There were 25 members present in November. That was a strong note on which to close the year.

The last year of the decade was filled with routine programs, offerings and ministries and observing The Week of Prayer. The attendance held up well except in September when the intense heat kept several at home.

Mrs. W. J. (Kate) Lucas was elected president for the year 1911. She was a loyal supporter of the Society until her death in 1944. Later one of the Circles was named the "Kate Lucas Circle." In that same January Meeting, Mrs. W. L. (Tillie) Lewis sang a solo, "Saved By Grace." The husbands of these two women were partners in the ownership of Lucas and Lewis Wholesale Grocery Co. Both were strong active laymen in the church.



That year another faithful member, Mrs. Susan C. Jerkins, died. This prompted the creation of a Committee for the purpose of notifying members to attend the funeral in a body when any member of the Society died. Also to send a Floral Tribute from the Society.

The minutes of 1912 recorded the usual things of the prior years except the July Meeting. "Mrs. Geo. Green made a talk on behalf of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union." That was, of course, relative to the prohibition of the sale and use of intoxicating beverages.

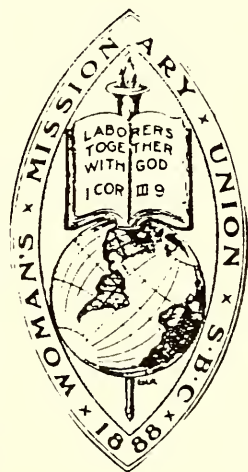
Mrs. T. J. Mitchell was elected to lead the Society in 1913. Her name had been appearing in the work of the Society for some time and would continue to be noted.

In February a new topic was introduced. A selection on Sunday School Work was read by Mrs. Churchill. These were the last minutes recorded in the old Ledger Book. The first ones were recorded November 7, 1886. What history and memories those pages did hold!

The women were preparing to observe, "The Jubilate Year." Selections concerning the observance of the 25th. Anniversary of Woman's Missionary Union were read at the May Meeting. How proud our ladies must have been that one of their former members, Miss Emma Whitfield, designed the W.M.U. Pin which was adopted. It was used as the W.M.U. Emblem also.

The next meeting was devoted to the study of Medical Missions and a discussion of same.

The name of a new member was recorded in June, Mrs. J. H. Sawyer. Mrs. Sawyer's name is synonymous with Sunbeams. She was the Sunbeam Leader for many many years. She also served as Girls Auxiliary Counselor and was instrumental in sending girls to the G.A. Houseparty every year at Meredith College in Raleigh, N.C.



The November minutes were headed, "Personal Service." Two committees were listed. "Committee to visit the sick, Mrs. Snelling, Mrs. Rouse, Mrs. Brinson." "Committee to visit Strangers," Mrs. Lucas, Mrs. Willis and Mrs. Rhodes." "The President, Mrs. T. J. Mitchell, was to be on both Committees."

The Society met in the home of Mrs. T. J. Mitchell in December. "After the meeting was over the ladies spent a social hour. The President served Tea and Wafers." This was the first time that a social hour or refreshments was mentioned except in reference to the Special Enlistment Meeting three or four years earlier. However, this was a nice way to bring the, "Jubilate Year," to a close.

The New Year 1914 opened by singing an appropriate hymn, "Am I a Soldier of The Cross?" The subject of the February Meeting was, "Sketches of The Life of Dr. Tichenor." The Society had already made contributions several years before to the Tichenor Memorial Building Fund. A solo, "Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken," was sung by Mrs. Charles H. Hall. "Tea and Wafers were served to the ladies and a few minutes spent in *social chat*."

The May Minutes were entitled, "The New Louisiana Purchase." Extracts from Mission Fields and Selections from Foreign Missions Journal were read. A letter from Miss Heck was read by the secretary and part of Miss Heck's speech at the W.M.U. Convention was read.

Five delegates were appointed at the September Meeting to the Associational meeting in Maysville. The following report was made to the Association for the past year, Nov. 1st 1913 to Sept. 30th 1914.

State Missions	\$12.51	Pledged Jubilate-Judson Memorial	\$733.00
Home Missions	62.10	Making total of	\$905.55
Foreign Missions	63.45		
Training School Support	10.04	42 members	
Tr. Sch. Enlargement	20.05		
In Treasury	<u>4.40</u>		
	\$172.55		

The Judson Fund was in memory of Adoniram Judson, first American foreign missionary. The Southern Baptist Convention voted in 1912 to raise \$1,250,000 to be used by the Foreign Mission Board for educational missions in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the sailing of Mr. Judson.

Prayer concerns were voiced. In October Miss Sadie Wilson offered a prayer for the end of the European War.

Many things were accomplished during the year. One of the most important was reported in December. "The president reported the organization of Royal Ambassadors, 15 members and a good deal of interest manifested by the boys."



Woman's Missionary Union, Aux. S. B. Convention,
233 NORTH HOWARD STREET.

Baltimore, Md., February 8, 1906

Received Sixty-three-----20/100 DOLLARS

from W. M. S. New Berne, N. C.

BOX SENT TO FRONTIER MISSIONARY.

ANNIE W. ARMSTRONG, Corresponding Secretary.

\$ 63.20

By G. M. H.

The year 1915 stands out in our history as a very busy year and a most important year. At the first meeting the president asked each member to express something that she wished for the Society's good in the coming year. "The president read a selection descriptive of a Missionary Society, also other selections from Royal Service."

The Society at First Baptist was abreast of what was going on in the State and Southern Unions. The magazine, ROYAL

SERVICE, was only about three months old. The quarterly magazine, OUR MISSION FIELDS, was replaced in October, 1914 by the monthly magazine, ROYAL SERVICE. In its first years this new periodical included material for all age groups.

Even though the Society was to be hostess to the State Woman's Missionary Union Convention March 23-26, no mention of it had been made in the minutes. It is strange that no plans were recorded. No mention made of when the invitation was extended. This was a tremendous undertaking for such a small society. The February minutes did note that a letter was read from Miss Barrus. She was the Corresponding Secretary of the N.C.W.M.U. so this letter, no doubt, was in reference to the coming convention.

Also reference was made that, "Letter from Senator Simmons saying CUTTER could not be secured for sail." What did this reference have to do with the N.C.W.M.U. Convention? Senator Furnifold M. Simmons was our distinguished Senator who served in the United States Senate from 1900-1930. He was a native of neighboring Jones County and practiced law in New Berne. The women asked their friend to secure permission to use the U.S. COAST GUARD CUTTER, "PAMLICO," to treat their inland sisters to a boat ride when they came to New Bern. They wanted them to view some of the area of, "The Land of Enchanting Waters," from the deck of the PAMLICO, Asail on the beautiful waters of the Neuse and Trent Rivers.

The Cutter, "Pamlico," was stationed in New Bern for nearly 40 years, from 1907 to the end of World War II. It was a familiar sight to many of us docked at its berth at the foot of Broad Street. But the Good Senator had to inform the ladies that although their intentions were good, the CUTTER could not be used for a pleasure ride.

The pastor, L. B. Padgett, was very much a part of the Society Meetings. He sang a solo and dismissed the meeting with prayer.

The following was also a part of the February Minutes:
 “FOR THE YEAR’S QUESTIONNAIRE”

No. Members	44	Contributed \$225.11 for the year ending
New Members	3	Feb. 28, 1915
Ave. Attendance	13	
Tithers	5	Royal Ambassadors to Foreign Missions \$5.30
F.M. Journal taken	32	
Home Fields taken	8	
Royal Service	10	
Mission Study	17	

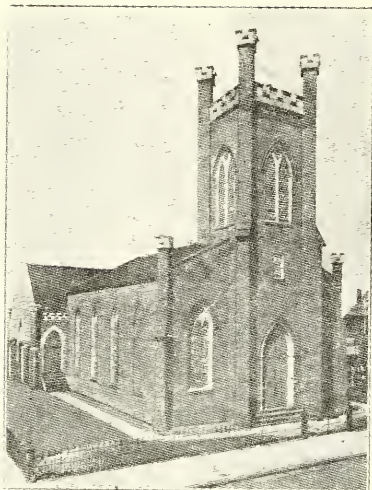
Finally, in the March meeting something specific was said about the Convention. “Souvenir Program Committee as follows: Mrs. F. G. Battle, Mrs. W. J. Lucas, Mrs. W. L. Lewis, Mrs. J. J. Rhodes and Mrs. S. M./Brinson.” “Mrs. J. B. Blades and Mrs. Dameron assisted by others were entertainment committee to get homes for the delegates to the W.M.U. to be held in the First Baptist Church the latter part of the month.” “Mrs. Charles Hall to make address of welcome to W.M.U.” So much to be done in a short period of time! And only 44 members!

While the Society’s Minutes were lacking in information, the local newspaper, THE DAILY JOURNAL, made up the difference with an abundant coverage of the convention with four front page articles and six or seven other articles. In the Sunday Edition, January 24, 1915, there was an article entitled, “BAPTIST WOMEN TO PAY VISIT IN MARCH.” Three Hundred Are Coming From All Parts Of The State.”

The article told us something that the minutes had failed to say, “Preparations are underway for the entertainment of these guests who were invited to come to the, “Athens of North Carolina,” at the last Annual Meeting of the Union which was held in March 1914 at Hendersonville, N.C.”

“The entertainment of the visitors will not be left to Baptists alone but every denomination in the city will assist and render whatever aid possible.” “Practically every home in the city will be thrown open to receive the visitors and no efforts will be left undone to make their visit a profitable as well as a pleasant one.”

There were three articles in March prior to the Convention Dates. There was a large front page article, Sunday, March 7, 1915.



BAPTIST WOMEN COMING TO NEW BERN NEXT WEEK

Hundreds of Them To At-
tend Great Conven-
tion to be Held Here

300 HEARD FROM

Eighty-One Yesterday Sig-
nified Their Intention
of Attending

Where the Woman's Missionary Union will hold their Great Convention on March 23 to 26. Four hundred delegates will attend.

"The war in Europe, the cry of hard times in America and many things to occupy one's thought and time at home all combined

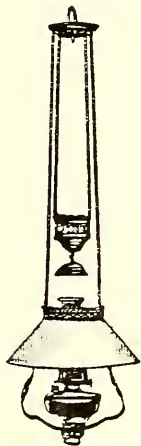
have not been sufficient to keep hundreds of Baptist Women throughout the state from turning their faces toward New Bern. Up to Friday noon about two hundred delegates had been assigned to homes, and yesterday 81 more names were reported. At such rate they may expect 350 or 400 of the maidens of the Lord, filling the homes and crowding the streets and stores during the days of the Woman's Missionary union, March 23-26."

"At the close of the Mission Study Class Friday Afternoon, the ladies decided to spend the time from 9:00 to 9:15 a.m. daily in prayer for the convention, each one spending this time alone at home."

"It will be of interest to know that a Souvenir Program of about 30 or 40 pages is being prepared. It will contain the photographs of the officers of the Union and six or seven persons connected with local organizations or committees and a number of scenes in and around New Bern."



The following appeared in THE DAILY JOURNAL, March 18 "The crowd that is expected to attend this convention will be the largest that has ever attended any convention of this Union and will represent nearly every Baptist Church in the State." "All sessions of the Union will be held in the First Baptist Church on Middle Street. During the past few weeks there has been a great deal of work done on the church yard, and some improvements have been made to the interior of the building and it will present quite an attractive appearance when the Union meets."



We wonder if one of the improvements was the installation of Electric Lights. The Church voted in conference in January, 1915, "That electric lights be used in church and Sunday School rooms to replace the gas lights."

The, "Great Convention", opened Tuesday Afternoon with the Vice-president's Conference. Tuesday Night was given over to the men. Our pastor, the Rev. L. B. Padgett, presided. There was music and Devotional Exercises by The Rev. J. H. M. Summerell, Pastor, First Presbyterian Church. The Annual Sermon was by The Rev. J. Clyde Turner, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Greensboro, N.C. The programs on Wednesday and

Thursday nights were also given by the men. The Editor of the newspaper spoke very highly of the night sessions saying that the speakers were of National Repute.

On Wednesday Morning Words of Welcome were extended by Mrs. Charles H. Hall from Baptists of the city and Mrs. C. Whit Gaskins gave the welcome from other denominations.

Mrs. Frank D. Lethco, First Vice-president, presided. Two newspaper articles had already stated that the President, Miss Fannie E. S. Heck, was ill in a hospital in Richmond, Va. and would not be able to attend.



We hold the 1915 W.M.U. Convention here in New Bern very dear as do all North Carolina W.M.U. Women because of the grave illness of the beloved president, Miss Heck. Miss Heck's thoughts about the meeting was the last entry in her diary, MY PLEASURE BOOK.

Following the response to the Words of Welcome came, "Message From Our Presdient." Some mighty powerful sermons have been preached, some great lectures delivered and some moving missionary messages given within those hallowed walls. But no words were more precious than those read by Miss Barrus that morning to the North Carolina Union from the heart of their dear president. There was more than one tear stained program as they listened to her message and looked at that beautiful boquet of white roses that Miss Heck had sent to them to remind them of her love. Oh, that we had a picture of that tender scene.

In that last entry in her diary, headed, "Thoughts about the W.M.U. Meeting in New Bern, 1915, March 24, 1915, one paragraph stated, "I had a picture of the New Bern church before me this morning (Wednesday) as they gathered. I recalled the interior from a visit years ago." We wish that we knew when that visit was and why she came to our church, but neither time nor search has revealed that information.

The address on Wednesday Morning, "Our Share In Molding The New Womanhood of China," was given by Miss Sophie Lanneau, A Missionary to China. The title and message were most appropriate since Miss Lanneau went to China in 1907 as the missionary of the Young Woman's Auxiliaries of North Carolina.



On Thursday Morning there was A Sunbeam and R.A. Hour. During this part of the program there was A SUNBEAM DEMONSTRATION by the Sunbeams of New Bern.

Several of the people on the program had close ties with the New Bern Society. Miss Blanche Barrus, Corresponding Secretary of the North Carolina Union, was born and reared at Pollocksville just sixteen miles away. The Rev. Hight C. Moore, who gave the Thursday Evening Address, was our pastor at the turn of the Century. His wife, Mrs. H. C. Moore, who spoke on Young Women and Missions, had been active in local and Associational W.M.U. work while she was in New Bern. Mrs. C. W. Blanchard of Kinston, gave the Opening Devotions. She later moved to New Bern and served as president of our W.M.U. Mrs. K.D. Stukenbrok told What The Training School Means To Me. She and her husband lived in New Bern a short while in the late nineteen thirties in the interest of some local mission work. The Rev. J. F. Love, Secretary of the Foreign Mission Board served as pastor at the Bayboro Church in 1889. Mrs. W.E. Daniel of Weldon who gave the Devotional Exercises at the closing session on Friday Morning was the mother of our own Louis B. Daniel.

During the Convention THE DAILY JOURNAL continued to give feature articles each day: BAPTIST WOMEN HERE IN FORCE, BAPTIST HOSTS SAY CONVENTION A GREAT SUCCESS, Yesterday's Session Fraught With Many Events of Real Interest, Rev. Livingston Johnson Thrilled His Hearers Last Night, BAPTIST CONVENTION COMES TO END TODAY. It was through this article, BAPTIST CONVENTION COMES TO A CLOSE, that we learned that one of our own members, Mrs. Charles H. Hall, was elected second Vice-President.

THE DAILY JOURNAL, NEW BERN, N. C.

THE LADIES PASS SET RESOLUTIONS

Thank Citizens and Local Newspapers for Their Consideration

Before departing from New Bern the members of the Woman's Missionary Union of North Carolina who have been attending the annual convention in session here, passed the following resolution:

With profound and heartfelt gratitude your committee, voicing the sentiment of the Woman's Missionary Union, desire to express thanks for new visions, mountain-top experiences, and the dignified and exalted privileges of preparing to be nobler and better fellow workers with God. The true friendship and sweet Christian fellowship will not only be pleasant memories but they have furnished incentives for now and nobler endeavor. Be it

Resolved: First. That most heartily do we thank the people of New Bern for their royal welcome and our hostesses of various denominations for their unbounded hospitality. Their thoughtfulness and unselfishness have made our stay not only a joyous and pleasant memory but will ever be cherished as a foretaste of future happiness.

Second: We desire to tender our thanks to the pastors of the First Church, L. B. Padgett, and W. R. Thiot, pastor of the Tabernacle and other pastors for their loyal and hearty co-operation and untiring assistance.

Third: We appreciate the fine spirit of welcome and thank Mrs. J. B. Blades and her committee on hospitality, the young ladies who have served so efficiently as ushers, the choir and organist who gave us such delightful music.

Fourth: We wish too, to thank the Chamber of Commerce, citizens of New Bern, Mr. Sloan and Mr. Miller for means of transportation, writing material, rest rooms, boat ride, and all those who have in so many ways contributed to our comfort and happiness.

Fifth: We would not forget the newspapers which have given us such accurate and splendid reports and the artistic and lovely programs furnished by the two churches.

Resolved further, That a copy of these resolutions be furnished the local papers.

Respectfully submitted,

MRS. G. A. MARTIN, Chm
MRS. W. G. ROGERS
MRS. S. E. KOONCE
MRS. J. O. GRAHAM
MRS. BOSCOM HANKINS
MRS. T. B. DAVIS
MISS SALLIE RIGSBEE

The merchants also had words of welcome for the delegates. Bradham Drug Co. ran a quarter of a page WELCOME. Mr. Bradham was the founder of PEPSI COLA. His Drug Store was diagonally across the street from the church.

W E L C O M E !

We wish to extend to the visiting delegates and public in general a cordial welcome to visit our modern and up-to-date drug stores, inspect our exclusive sanitary soda service---nothing like it in this country---Meet your friends here---Just say Bradham's, & they will know. In addition to our elaborate soda menu, we are serving many specials this week. : : : : :

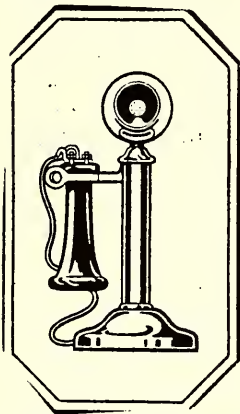
Your Visit Will Not Be Complete Unless You Visit Bradham's Stores

Where Quality and
Service are Paramount

BRADHAM DRUG COMP'Y

The Two Best Stores
Phone 35-Phone 78

J.J. Baxter ran a three inch wide ad and the full length of the page



This small ad also appeared: BAPTIST-Ladies, as well as all others, enjoy roses, carnations and sweet peas. I will have them for you. Ring me up. J.W. Watson, 34 New Street, Phone 353.

In the Friday Paper there was a small item under

Local News. "Although the Annual Convention of the Woman's Missionary Union which IS IN SESSION HERE WILL NOT CLOSE UNTIL AFTER THE SERVICES TONIGHT, quite a number of delegates have left the City. Nearly every train leaving New Bern yesterday carried some of the delegates who were returning home." Reduced rates were offered for the return trip if the railroad certificate receipts were signed by the Corresponding Secretary.

DELEGATES TO
THE WOMAN'S
MISSIONARY
UNION:

WE CORDIALLY
INVITE YOU TO
VISIT OUR
STORE WHILE
IN THE CITY

A SPECIAL
DISCOUNT OF
10 per ct.
on all
PURCHASES TO
DELEGATES

J.J. BAXTER
ELKS TEMPLE
DEPARTMENT
STORE

BETTER GOODS
FOR
LESS MONEY



UNION STATION at Hancock and Queen Streets was very much a part of the Convention. The arrivals and leavings of the ladies were in the thoughts of Miss Heck as she lay in her hospital bed in Richmond. She wrote, "I have been following them constantly in my thoughts-the home leavings, the meetings on the train, the growing crowds, the smooth farm gardens as they near Goldsboro, the first thought of the sea, the

crowded train as it pulls out on its way farther east, the level stretches, the talk of my society, my association, trials, triumphs, plans, the arrival, the bustle and stir in the station, filled, and for the time, managed by the women." Surely it was a busy place. AND THE Station walls must have echoed and re-echoed the sound of women's voices mixed with joy and sorrow for many days.

The GREAT CONVENTION must have lingered in the thoughts of our women and was the topic of conversation for many meetings to come; however, they failed to record their thoughts and conversations about it.

The April minutes did say, "Letters from Mrs. Lethco, Mrs. Jones and Miss Barrus were read thanking the Society for their kindness during W.M.U." Mrs. Hall read a letter to be sent to Miss Heck. "Mrs. Battle and Mrs. Blades made a report on Souvenir Program and other expenses of W.M.U." Collection to be used to defray expenses of W.M.U."

Nothing further was reported except in May, "Letter from Miss Barrus read by Secretary." "The ladies present were asked to give 50¢ each to help finish paying W.M.U. Expenses." The monetary cost of the convention must have been minimal. According to the newspaper reports, never has so much been received for so little.

Mrs. T. J. Mitchell, President, who led the women so ably in the preceding months, felt it necessary that she resign in June,

"On account of her increasing deafness." Mrs. Charles H. Hall was elected to serve in her place.

The name of a new member, Mrs. N. E. Mohn, was recorded in July. A quiet woman of Mennonite background, Mrs. Mohn became a staunch supporter and ally of Woman's Missionary Union. She and her husband championed the cause of Missions around the world. Following World War II they assumed support of a missionary to Japan.

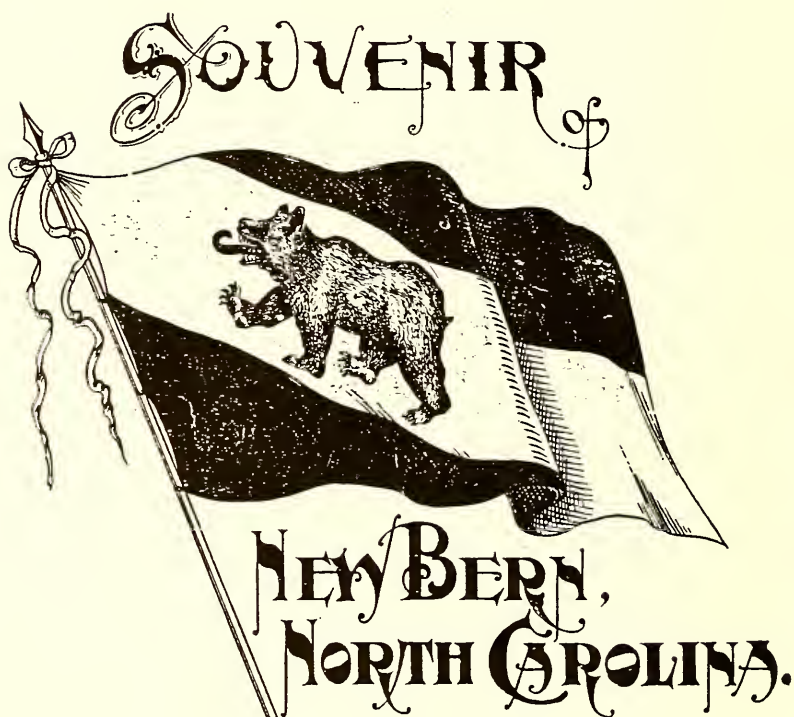
The Society held a Special Meeting for the Training School in August. "A letter was read from Mrs. Moore." No doubt, she was Mrs. Hight C. Moore, a former member and North Carolina's trustee of the W.M.U. Training School in Louisville, Ky. She, too, must have felt much pride in the tremendous job that her former sisters had done with the convention. "Mrs. Hall read Mrs. McClure's address to the W.M.U. at Houston." Mrs. Maud Reynolds McClure was the first principal of the Training School.

Miss Fannie E. S. Heck, beloved President of Woman's Missionary Union auxiliary to the North Carolina Baptist State Convention and President of Woman's Missionary Union auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention, died August 25, 1915, at her home in Raleigh, N.C. "Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Sawyer, Mrs. Churchill and Mrs. Kehoe were appointed to draw resolutions on her death."

One simple statement in the October minutes speaks volumes about our sisters of that time. "Selections from F.M. Journal and Royal Service read by Mrs. Hall, also letter written to Mrs. Heck." Oh, the depth of love and compassion they felt for the bereaved mother of Miss Fannie Heck, and they wanted her to know of their love and concern for her. Would that we had a copy of that letter or was it not for us to intrude upon those tender words written for Mrs. Heck alone.

"Miss Sue Kelly met with and addressed the Society Friday December 10th." Miss Kelly was one of the college or Training School students who did summer field work. She worked on the Flat River for six weeks in 1913 organizing twenty new societies. "Mr. Padgett to be asked to preach sermon on World

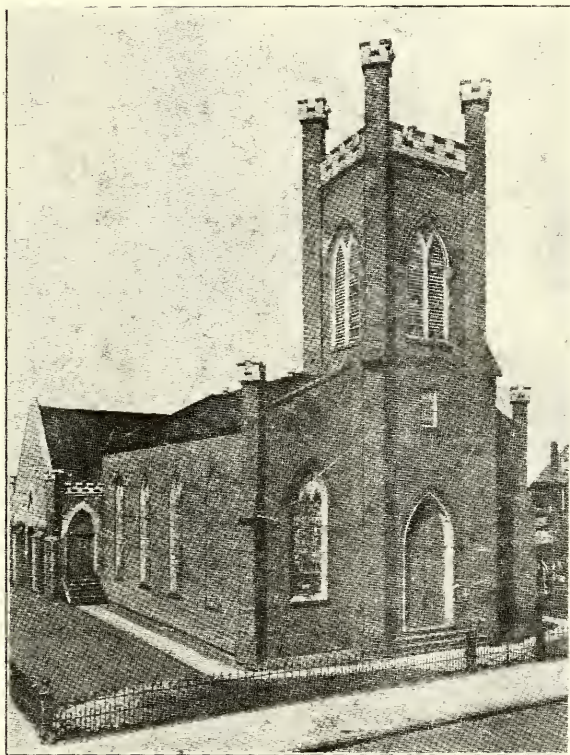
Wide Missions, Sunday, January 2nd." "Society to observe three days of the Week of Prayer." The last meeting was dismissed by singing the Doxology. Was there any better way to close such a memorable year than to praise God for His blessings.



SOUVENIR PROGRAM

Woman's Missionary Union

of North Carolina



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

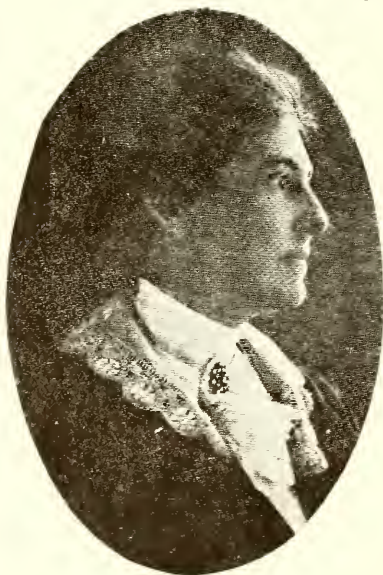
New Bern, N. C., March 23-26, 1915

LOCAL OFFICERS



MRS. T. J. MITCHELL.

Pres. W. M. S., First Baptist Church New Bern, N. C.



MRS. J. B. BLADES

Chairman Entertainment Committee
New Bern, N. C.



MRS. J. S. MILLER

Pres. W. M. S. Tabernacle Baptist
Church, New Bern, N. C.

Chapter III

None Idly Saying, There Is Nothing I Can Do

There did not appear to be any letdown after such a busy year. An advisory committee was appointed, "To keep in touch with all of our work and aid the officers in planning for the advancement of society,' this committee to also have charge of collecting and act as Literature Committee."

Three delegates, Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Battle and Mrs. Mitchell were appointed to the 1916 W.M.U. Convention in Winston Salem. Mrs. Lucas was appointed delegate from R.A.

The program in March was entitled, WHAT THE HOME MISSION BOARD IS. The advisory committee reported three meetings. It's name was to be changed to Vigilance Committee, duties to look up new members and look after sick. Evidently it had been at work. The enlistment Committee reported nine new members. Mrs. Bishop, Mrs. W. F. Dowdy, Mrs. A. J. Davenport, Mr. LeGallis, Mrs. E. B. Elliott, Mrs. E. Wills, Mrs. F. Duffy, Mrs. Lonie Duffy and Mrs. Henry Whitehurst.

The delegates reported on the Convention to the twenty-six members present at the April Meeting. They made talks on what they had heard and what each one was especially impressed with. The society was to be divided into five circles,

Union Point Circle, Broad Street Circle, Craven Street Circle, Metcalf Street Circle and Riverside Circle.

In June the name of a new member was reported, Mrs. George B. Waters. Mrs. Waters was Miss Clarita Clark, a descendant of Elijah Clark, one of the founders of the church.

In July a letter was read from Mrs. H. C. Moore. There was an extra collection of \$6.85 for The Training school and in August the society decided to send the quarter's collection for the Training School. No doubt, that letter from their former member and North Carolina Training School Representative was concerning the Woman's Missionary Training School in Louisville, Kentucky.

State Mission day was observed in October, collection \$53.40. Delegates were appointed to attend the Associational Meeting. They were interested in every area of work and were kept so by attending the Associational and State Meetings.

The society gained a new member in November, Mrs. C. W. Blanchard; but it lost a former president, Miss Sallie Wilson. At her death they expressed their love and appreciation for one whom they described as unusually retiring and gentle by nature, but earnest and sincere in standing for the right. She was a faithful and consistent member of First Baptist Church for more than fifty years.

In the New Year of 1917 the society passed the following resolution, "That the church be requested to adopt the Budget System and scheme of disbursement recommended by the Neuse-Atlantic Association in Morehead City in 1915 and that the records of the Treasurer of benevolence be so kept that all missions contributed by the women of the church can be credited to the W.M.S. and its Auxiliaries." It was also decided that each circle hold a meeting once a month preferably the third week of the month. Committees for the year were appointed:

Personal Service

Mrs. T. J. Mitchell

Mrs. Josephine Snellings

Mrs. J. J. Rhodes

Finance Committee

Mrs. C. H. Hall

Mrs. A. S. Hardison

Miss Metts

Literature

Mrs. T. J. Mitchell

Current Events

Mrs. C. W. Blanchard

Music and Pianist

Mrs. J. B. Blades

Special Season

Mrs. L. B. Padgett

Mrs. A. M. Rae

Mrs. L. L. Dameron

Mrs. C. M. Kehoe

Mrs. R. P. Montague

Mrs. L. B. Padgett reported that a Jr. Young Woman's Auxiliary had been formed with 18 members.

The March Meeting was devoted to the study of Home Missions. Mrs. J. H. Sawyer read an interesting paper on THE FOREIGNER IN OUR COUNTRY.

In April a motion carried that each member give some article to be put in the barrell for Red Springs Church rummage sale. Mrs. W. J. Lucas and Mrs. F. G. Battle made very interesting and enthusiastic reports of the State W.M.U. Convention.

As the roll was called in May each member answered with the name of a Missionary Worker. Reports were made by the different circles. Mrs. Hall was appointed to see about books for the Traveling Library in the Association. Twenty eight books were collected by the June Meeting. The motion carried that each member gather 100 lbs. of magazines and paper during May, June and July to be sold and the money used as a Sinking Fund.

Mrs. LeGallis read a letter from Miss Clifford, one of our missionaries among Osage Indians. Several post cards were read showing the different phases of the Indian Work. Many curios were shown.

The society voted to hold Prayer Meetings each week before the September Meeting to pray for the church, its pastor and all phases of work.

In September some of the ladies decided to knit sweaters for personal service work. Could these sweaters have been for our Soldier Boys? Mrs. Bertha Thomas read a paper on "Some of the Trials of Early Baptists."

The president reported in October that the society had met every apportionment except the Training School Fund. Special effort needed to be made in the next two months to raise a

large amount for the Church Building and Loan Trust Fund. The women were asked to let their money for State Missions go through the society this year. The offering was \$57.10. A letter was read from Miss Sophie Lanneau, a missionary in Soo Chow, China.

Mrs. T. J. Mitchell gave the Devotional Exercises at the November Meeting which she had given at the Associational W.M.U. Meeting.

The business in December was to appoint Mrs. C. W. Blanchard, Mrs. T. J. Mitchell and Mrs. W. L. Lewis to see to organizing one or more New Societies in the Association. Officers were elected for the ensuing year. "There being no other business the society repeated the Lord's Prayer in concert and adjourned."

The society was concerned about its sisters in neighboring churches. The first item of business in the year 1918 was regarding organizing new societies at Cove City and Ft. Barnwell. It was reported that the Circulating Library was going to Pollocksville, Smyrna and Winterville. The State President, Mrs. W. N. Jones, requested that delegates to the Convention be elected in January.

In reports to the society it was noted that Mrs. Mitchell made the Red Cross Report. Nothing had been said about the United States being at war in Europe; however, this report was probably in connection with the war effort. The mother hearts were full and anxious for the safety and welfare of their boys on the battlefields in France. Prayer was offered during the April Meeting for the Army and Navy. A motion was made to have an Honor Roll for the young men who had gone from our church in the Army and Navy. An amendment was made that the society have a Service Flag. Miss Bessie Battle presented a Service Flag to the society.

At the February Meeting the society gave a rising vote of thanks to Mrs. J. C. Whitty for the most excellent work she had done the past 18 years as treasurer.

The ladies were excited about the arrival of the new minister, Mr. A. A. Walker. The March Minutes record, "The following committee was appointed to decorate the church on

Sunday for our new minister, Mrs. Dameron, Mrs. Mitchell and Mrs. Hancock.”

The Circle Plan seemed to be working well. Five reports were made by the various circles at the April Meeting.

At the May Meeting the subject of Royal Ambassadors was discussed and Mrs. Lucas was induced to reconsider her decision. Evidently she had resigned as R. A. Leader but agreed to continue. The women were urged to attend the Baptist Sea Side Chataqua at Wrightsville Beach near Wilmington, N.C.

The only way we know that one of our members had been elected Superintendent of the Woman's Missionary Union, Atlantic Baptist Association was the closing sentence of the May Minutes. “The meeting adjourned with prayer by our Associational Superintendent, Mrs. Blanchard.”

There were seven names of our young men to be added to the Honor Roll and Service Flag in June. It was decided to recommend to the church to have an assistant to the pastor for two months, the society to pay \$10.00 a month for her salary. The church minutes of June 6, 1918 read: “The W.M.S. asked the church to employ a trained worker from Louisville Training School for a period of 2 months as a trial and the W.M.S. to contribute \$10.00 per month of the \$50.00 per month salary. Vote that this be given a trial during the months of July and August was carried. The young lady employed was Miss Rose Goodwin. A report of her work was made at the November Meeting of the W.M.S.

The Church Minutes of July 11, 1918 noted the following: “The pastor mentioned that it would be well for the funds of the W.M.S. to pass through the books of the church treasurer and wished the members to think about it.” Whether or not they did is not recorded.

It was decided to host a one day meeting of the Association on December 10, 1918. Mrs. C. H. Hall and Mrs. Z. V. Parker were appointed delegates. Mrs. Blanchard read a letter from Mrs. Jones, State W.M.U. President, urging the society to begin the New Year with Prayer for Divine Guidance and strength and for a new knowledge of His will.

The ladies began the year in 1919 concerned for other churches across the Southern Baptist Convention. "Building Loan Campaign for homeless churches was the subject studied." The slogan for the campaign is from a verse in Nehemiah - "We will not forsake the house of our Lord." The Church Building Loan Fund was to assist Southern Baptist churches in their building programs. Plans of payment to the fund were made.

The society decided to have a rummage sale. The money raised from this sale to be used as a sinking fund. The sale netted forty eight dollars.

Two members were lost by death, Mrs. Sam Brinson and Mrs. N. B. Fields. Resolutions of Respect were drafted to both of these women.

During the business session of the April Meeting, the president urged members to use Calendar of Prayer and devote ten minutes daily to prayer for Million Dollar Campaign-also to turn in old missionary magazines for use at Spring Garden." It was suggested in the May Meeting that the ladies save their Royal Service to be given to the ladies at Spring Garden church where they hoped to organize a Missionary Society.

The program topic of the May Meeting was, "Our W.M.U. Literature." The women were encouraged to subscribe and read the magazines.

"Subject of Plan to enlist men in missions touched on but not decided." What was that all about? "Voted and carried to have rummage sale to pay expenses from Norfolk, Va. to New Bern of the Neuse-Atlantic Missionary, \$50.00 amount required."

"Invitation to Miss Rose Goodwin's Graduation at Louisville Training School was read." "A WRIST WATCH was sent from the Society to her." This was the young lady who worked in the church during the prior summer.

It was reported in the October Meeting that all of the Soldier Boys had returned. "The Service Flag will be moved from the church and kept by the president of the missionary society." It

was moved and passed that the society ask the pastor to conduct suitable services when the flag was taken down. The Church Minutes of January 18, 1920 recorded, "The demobilization of the Service Flag (in memory of the boys who took part in the World War) and attendant exercises took place at the regular Sunday Morning Services"



A most encouraging report was given from both the Sunbeams and Y.W.A. stating there were 48 children present at the Sunbeams on the first Monday in November and that the G.A. had reorganized.

The following statement appeared in the November Minutes. "It was announced that Miss Mallory, our W.M.U. Secty. would honor us with a visit on the 22nd." Why was Miss Kathleen Mallory, Corresponding Secretary, Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention coming from Baltimore, Md., to New Bern, N.C.? What was the purpose of her visit? No further mention was made of Miss Mallory or her visit. However, the local newspaper, THE NEW Bernian, gave full coverage to her visit. On Wednesday, November 12, 1919, it printed a picture of Miss Mallory and a lengthy article entitled, BAPTIST WOMEN TO RAISE \$15,000,000. Fifth of Sum Sought In Five Year Program Will Come From Them. Hospitals, Mountain Schools, Good Will Centers and Church Building Funds Maintained by Women in Addition to Regular Gifts. "Evidencing the larger sphere which women have come to occupy in church life, as well as other activities, when the 75 Million Campaign was decided upon at the meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention at Atlanta last May, the women through their regular organization, The Woman's Missionary Union, at once agreed to be responsible for one-fifth of the sum sought, or \$15,000,000."

THE SEVENTY FIVE MILLION CAMPAIGN was a five year

program, 1919-1924 to raise \$75,000,000 for all Baptist missionary, educational and benevolent work in the states and Southern Baptist Convention and it set a new pattern for Baptist Co-operation. It was believed by many to have been the forerunner of the Cooperative Program.

The beloved secretary, Miss Mallory, was coming to promote the campaign as stated in another newspaper article on Thursday November 20, 1919. "The Baptist Women of the city realizing that a rare treat is in store for all who hear Miss Mallory on Saturday are anxious that no one should miss the opportunity.' 'Miss Mallory comes to New Bern in interest of the \$75,000,000 Campaign and while her message will deal with this great subject it will be of vital interest to every woman in every church of the city and all are cordially invited to be present. Miss Mallory will be in the First Baptist Church, Saturday, November 22 at 3:00 P.M."

What a marvelous privilege to have this wonderful Christian Leader and gifted speaker in our church. There must have been much excitement and anticipation at her coming.

Our State Baptist Paper, The Biblical Recorder, gave much information about Miss Mallory's visit to North Carolina. The following article appeared in the Biblical Recorder, Wednesday, December 3, 1919. "Miss Mallory's coming was a wonderful inspiration to our North Carolina women. She spoke in Elizabeth City, Kinston, New Bern, Greenville, Durham, Raleigh, Oxford and Winston-Salem. Everywhere she was met by excellent audiences, sympathetic and earnest. After listening to Miss Mallory, women went home and increased their campaign pledges. They did so joyously, for they had caught a new vision of their Christian obligations, and of the great need of humanity. May our Father's richest blessing attend our dear W.M.U. Secretary in her broad field of service among the women of the South."

"Mrs. Jones, our beloved President, accompanied Miss Mallory and spoke in many places on the practical workings of the campaign plans."

Our women must have responded well. In the December Meeting, Mrs. Battle urged every woman who had contributed

to the 75 Million Campaign to become an active member of the Woman's Missionary Society and that they continue the morning prayers at 10:00 o'clock. The society gave Mrs. Battle a rising vote of thanks for her splendid and untiring efforts during the campaign. "Mrs. Ayers volunteered to organize the young matrons in a missionary society or circle, a feature long needed."

The weather was still playing a part in the meeting place. In January, "'twas moved and carried that the society meetings should be held in the various homes during the remainder of the winter on account of the poor heating."

The Church Minutes of February 1, 1920 carried an interesting item. "The Union Services for the annual meeting of the Female Benevolent Society of this city was held with this church with Bro. Ayers, our pastor, preaching the sermon, after which collection was taken for the use of the society.' 'A committee was formed looking to the establishment of a home for homeless working ladies of the city.'" (First Baptist, Mrs. W. J. Lucas) Our ladies were active in this new endeavor.

In March the Standard of Excellence Chart was on display. The society made every point except attendance in the prior year. It was reported that the Y.W.A. seemed to be on a more solid basis than before.

The ladies had the sad task of equipping the Fields Children who were sent to the orphanage. Their mother, a society member, had died a year earlier.

Miss Fannie Holland made a talk on the State W.M.U. Convention, which was enjoyed by everyone.

In December it was moved and carried that the society send a purse to the European Relief Fund through the Foreign Mission Board. The amount sent was \$53.00.

The circles were now listed by number instead of names. Circle leaders for 1921 were Mrs. George Waters, Mrs. Guthrie, Mrs. N. C. Brooks, Mrs. Ernest Willis and Mrs. Waldrop.

The society voted to meet with other churches February 18, 1921 to observe THE Day of Prayer for World Wide Missions.

The program for March was a little unusual. A discussion, *Is Emigration a Menace, Should Emigration Be Restricted?* The Honorable S. M. Brinson, a member of our church and a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, took the affirmative and Miss Bessie Battle, the negative.

The ladies continued to help meet many needs. In June they voted to support an Armenian Orphan. They stressed the importance of keeping up with the Seventy Five Million Drive.

The August and September Meetings were held at 5:00 P.M. because of the intense heat. State Missions Day was observed September 9th.

The reports of the Girls Auxiliary, Royal Ambassadors and Sunbeams made at the November Meeting were most encouraging. A thirty minute Prayer Meeting for Disarmament Conference was held on Friday, November 11th at 10:00 o'clock A.M.

The name, Mrs. N. C. Brooks, appeared often in the minutes. She was the mother of Nathan C. Brooks, Jr. and Miss Ernell Brooks. Nathan worked with the North Carolina Training Union Department and served as Director of church programs for N.C. Baptist Convention. He was the only male to serve as President of The Carver School of Missions and Social Work. Ernell served as a Missionary Nurse to Nigeria. Mrs. Brooks was elected to serve as Vice-president of the Society for the year 1922.

The Executive Committee met in January, 1922 and drafted resolutions governing the work for the year. "First, that Circle No. 5 be left intact and that they be asked to prepare the programs for the months of February and October. Second: That the society hold two meetings each month, the first being a business meeting at which time all collections are reported. The second meeting having a worthwhile program and a social session that four ladies shall be named by the Program Committee to act as hostess for these meetings. Third: That the W.M.S. give more attention to mothering the junior organizations one woman being appointed by the chair at each business session to visit each of the junior organizations and report on same. Fourth: That a Leader for Junior G.A. and Junior R.A. be

secured to take the children between the Sunbeam and G. A. Ages. Fifth: That the whole society enter heartily into two Mission Study Classes during the year. One in the Winter and one in the Fall was voted upon and carried unanimously."

In February the ladies assumed the responsibility of organizing a Woman's Missionary Society at Cove City, Hobucken, Oriental, Ft. Barnwell and Spring Garden.

A special fund was established for work among the Baptist Boys at the Veterans Hospital, Oteen, N.C.

"The Society voted to send Miss Ethel Eaton from New Bern First Church Society to the W.M.U. Training School and to be responsible for her tuition." Mrs. Land suggested an apron sale which was discussed and decided for each to make one apron to be sold and applied to the fund."

The summer worker from the Training School was to be in group #4 for two weeks. It was moved and carried that she be placed one week at Spring Garden and one week at Vandemere.

A letter from Miss Eaton was read in the June Meeting.

"To the Ladies of the W.M.S. of the First Baptist Church:

My heart is filled to overflowing with love and gratitude, as I try to express to you my thanks and appreciation for the wonderful thing you have done for me."

"I wish I could tell you fine, splendid women just how much it has meant to me to know that I shall be able to live in, "House Beautiful," next year. It has strengthened my faith in God and in the power of prayer. For oh, I know now as never before that *prayers are answered*. For some time I had felt the call to do some definitely Christian work and for more than a year I have prayed about it and have asked that I might be led aright. I felt the call but I wanted the assurance from God that He did want me for His service. And I feel that He has given me that assurance. I prayed, Lord if you want me to do definite work for Thee, then show me that you do by opening the way for me to go to Louisville and get the training I shall need. How God has used you in answering my prayers, you know, and I am thanking and praising Him each day for so wonderfully blessing me thru you."

"I am praying that He may take me and use me as He will-and I know that I shall be able to accomplish some in His name and His service - for He will not let me fail, I know. Whatever good I may be able to do, whatever measure of success I may attain, will all come back to you women of this W.M.S. for making it possible for me to go."

"I shall thank our Father always that He put it in the hearts of you noble women to help me fit myself for better, broader service and I shall pray that it will not become a burden to you. Will you pray for me that I may always know what is that good and perfect will of my Father as I go on step by step. And may His richest blessing be on you all."

"Yours in His service
Ethel Holman Eaton"

Our Training School Girl, Ethel Eaton, fell in love with a Seminary Boy, Dr. C. R. Pittard. They were married in First Baptist Church, June 15, 1926. She found her place of service as a pastor's wife. They retired to New Bern several years ago and are still active in the Master's Service.

"It was moved and carried that we have a booth during the Convention, sell sandwiches and drinks and on Saturdays during the summer sell Ice Cream." The sale of aprons netted \$11.87 and the amount from the booth was \$20.05 making a total of \$33.92. It was moved and carried to order Polishing Cloths and to have a cake and pie sale on a Saturday in July."

It would be interesting to know what this sentence in the August Minutes referred to: "Society to observe bundle day Sept. 6th." we will probably never know what "Bundle Day," was.

Letters were being received regularly from Mr. J. A. McKaughn about the boys at Oteen. The ladies were asked to write to the boys there.

It was discussed and considered to help in providing a free bed in the New Bern General Hospital. The General Hospital was a large wooden structure on Craven Street which was later converted into an apartment house.

The ladies decided to buy dishes to be used at banquets. It

was reported in November that the dishes had been purchased. A special prayer was given by Mrs. Thomas for, "Our Training School Girl," and the older members.

Because of its effect on the whole town and all of its residents, no history pertaining to New Bern is complete without mentioning the, "Great Fire of 1922." On December 1st forty blocks were completely destroyed and 3,000 people had lost their homes. The old section of town where our Middle Street Church is located was saved. The area where our first church stood was not spared. St. Peter's A.M.E.Z. Church just three or four hundred yards from our first church was completely destroyed. The townspeople and those of the surrounding area were mobilized to minister to the families in the tent city which was erected by the Red Cross.

The women of our Missionary Society rendered whatever help that they could in their caring and compassionate way.

The Year 1923 began with Mrs. Nathan C. Brooks as President. The young people were used in the program. In February, James Guthrie sang, "Nobody Told Me Of Jesus." Miss Martha Waters played a piano solo at the March Meeting.

The February Minutes recorded that The Blanche Barrus Memorial Fund was to be collected and forwarded this month. This fund was for the building of the "Blanche Barrus Nurses' Home," at the Baptist Hospital, Winston-Salem, N.C. Dr. Blanche Josephine Barrus prepared herself for missionary service in India but was never able to leave the country because of her serious illness and her ensuing death in November 1922. We pay tribute to one of our Associational Sisters whose body was laid to rest in the Pollocksville Cemetery overlooking the Trent River in which she was baptized. That same river flows through our town less than two blocks from our church and it seems to be a ribbon that binds our hearts to her great missionary heart.

The society was called upon to give to many causes. They received a letter in April from Dr. Charles E. Maddry asking them to contribute \$10.00 toward a pew at Chapel Hill and so assist in helping furnish this church. It was so ordered.

The Blanche Barrus Circle was asked to have charge of the Devotional Meeting on October 24th,

In December a Prayer of Thanksgiving was offered for the incoming pastor, Dr. W. H. Horton.

The Twenties were moving right along. A Mission Study Class was held in April, 1924 on the W.M.U. Manual of Methods.

In May a letter was read, "Training School Girl, Miss Eaton has opportunity of work for the summer and wishes to know the society's wishes concerning accepting work." "Motion was made and carried that Miss Eaton take work where she wishes and feels she can do the most good and that letter be written her thanking her for her thoughtfulness in consulting society's wishes."

Miss Eaton was present at the June Meeting and made an interesting talk on the Training School, describing House Beautiful and different phases of the work and training.

A Play, Visions of Service, was presented by some of the members of the society, G.A.'s and Sunbeams assisted by Mrs. John Lane. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

Plans were made at the Meeting in September for hosting the W.M.U. Associational Meeting in October. The following Committees were appointed: Devotional A.M. - Mrs. Thomas; Words of Welcome - Mrs. Nathan Brooks; Mrs. Hall in charge of music; Afternoon - Mrs. Marshburn in charge of Devotional Exercises or one of the girls; Demonstration; Y.W.A.'s; Dinner: Mrs. Lucas, Chairman; Mrs. Fred Whitty, Flowers.

The November Meeting opened with a Duet: HOME SWEET HOME, by Mesdames Harker and Marshburn. These gifted sisters used their voices in the society and choir for many years. Mrs. Harkers' Daughters, Carole White and Doris Garner have followed in her train.

There was an interesting item in the June Meeting of 1925. "There was a discussion on contributing towards fund to place commandments in each room in our city schools." Other sources indicate that this was a joint effort of the church women of New Bern.

One of the older, faithful members, Mrs. Susan Green Churchill, died in June. Resolutions of respect were sent to her family and placed in the society minutes. "With her going our Missionary Society lost its oldest member, her name being among those who organized and carried on the great work of missions in our church."

The Sunbeams presented the program for the August Meeting. Ten of them were present.

Interest was manifested in the local hospital and the N.C. Baptist Hospital with a regular collection for both. A box was sent to the Baptist Hospital in June of 1926. The program for June, WHAT WE OWE THE RED MAN, was presented by four girls, Misses Joy Parker, Sallie Brooks, Maxine Dowdy and Sarah Mitchell.

A letter was read in September asking for contribution of \$1.00 to Potecasio to assist on Church Building. A collection was taken for same. Potecasio was one of the old churches in North Carolina. It was located in Northampton County, in the West Chowan Association.

The ladies discussed and conferred with the pastor whether or not to contribute gifts to missions directly to the society or through the church envelopes for the year 1927. A motion was made, seconded and carried to continue their contributions though the church envelopes.

The ladies of the society felt that at least two of them should be in the vestibule on Sunday Mornings to greet the members and strangers. Appointments were made for the ladies to serve in this capacity.

In August a letter from Mrs. W. N. Jones, State W.M.U. President was read. It was decided to have the letter read in church and a free will offering taken for object stated in the letter. The object of the letter is not known; however, a collection of \$12.50 was received on transportation of Mr. and Mrs. Newton to Foreign Field in the September Meeting. Could this have been Mr. and Mrs. William Carey Newton who served as missionaries to China from 1902-1939?

The society was asked to send Christmas Presents to Biggs Building Girls at Kennedy Home, Kinston, N.C. Motion was made and carried to do so.

The BAPTIST Women of 1928 were concerned about women's role in Christianity. In May they had a program entitled, "Woman In Missionary History." The Bible Lesson was, "The Attitude of Jesus Toward Women." Parts discussed by the members were: "Woman's Emancipation," "Women of The Early Church" and "Women Who Took Part in Christianization of Europe."

The president reported at the June Meeting that a Y.W.A. had been organized. The Auxiliary presented the W.M.S. Program in August on South American Churches.

Woman's Missionary Union was forty years old. Selections on the RUBY ANNIVERSARY, were read at the November meeting.

The Society began the New Year in 1929 on a note of high commitment with a program on, "God's Claim of Ownership." With bowed heads the Hymn, Take My Life and Let It Be, was sung as a prayer. The use of time and talent was discussed.

The Young people's Organizations seemed to be progressing on a more firm foundation. The circles were meeting monthly and reporting on the work that they were doing.



1928

Because of the heat the hour of the meeting in the summer of 1930 was changed to 4:30 P.M. The Sunbeams were to disband for July and August because of the heat. In June a letter was read from Vandemere asking for \$1.00 on a piano for the church there. The dollar was graciously given.

The last minutes recorded in the second Ledger Book were for the meeting of February 4, 1931.

In the first three decades of the Twentieth Century, the Woman's Missionary Society celebrated two anniversaries, The JUBILATE (25) in 1913 and the RUBY ANNIVERSARY (40) in 1928. They had hosted a State Woman's Missionary Union Convention. The Associational W.M.U. had met at First Church several times. They saw the world engulfed in World War I. They lived through a devastating fire and experienced a killer hurricane, September 3, 1913. Through it all they had faithfully met, prayed and labored to serve The Master.

Mission Study Certificate
Awarded by
Woman's Missionary Union
of the
Southern Baptist Convention

Mrs. R. L. Jenkins

ALL THE WORLD IN ALL THE WORD



MANUAL OF W. M. U. METHODS



STEWARDSHIP AND MISSIONS



HOME MISSION BOOK



IN ROYAL SERVICE



The Vandemere Swinging
FOREIGN MISSION BOOK



Mrs. W. S. Jones

STATE W. M. U. PRESIDENT

Mrs. W. C. James
W. M. U. PRESIDENT

Mary Warren Cor. Sec.



Kathleen Mallory
W. M. U. CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Woman's Missionary Society
 Quarter ending May 31, 1918
 No. Members 60
 New Members 10
 Mission Study Classes 8-
 No visits made 375-
 Literature sent to mail
 No garments ~~sent~~ given to poor 41
 Home Mission Fund 147.24
 Memorial Fund 4.85-
 Association of Women Fund 2.50
 Service Flag 3.75-
 Total Collected & ⁸mailed 158.34

Mrs. J. G. Orth Pres.

Chapter IV

Rich Rewards Offered and Received

Although the minutes for most of the years of the 1930's and 1940's are missing, that does not mean that the society was not alive and active. The society continued to contribute \$5.00 for a Charity Bed in the local hospital. The Treasurer's report for January-February, 1931 showed that \$10.00 was given to the Benevolent Society for Sick Fund. Two girls were sent to the Y.W.A. Camp at Ridgecrest, N.C. in the summer of 1934.

Even though the country had been plunged into, "The Depression," the report for the year of 1934 showed their offerings to be constant.

Cooperative Program	\$426.93	Heck Memorial Offering	\$15.00
Home Missions	30.00	W.M.U. Training School	10.00
State Missions	17.30	Margaret Home	5.00
Lottie Moon Offering	100.00	State Expense Fund	7.00
Orphanage	20.00	Assoc. W.M.U. Expense Fund	3.00
			<u>\$634.23</u>

During that year the society lost two members through death. Miss Eliza Metts had been a faithful member for many years. Mrs. C. W. Blanchard had served as W.M.U. President in 1933. She was active in the State Organization and served as Vice-president while her husband was pastor in Kinston, N.C.

A young couple, Mr. and Mrs. Louis B. Daniel, were received on letter from The First Baptist Church, Washington, N.C. on Sunday Morning, March 3, 1929. Both of the lives of this dedicated couple made an impact on the Missionary Society and Mission Endeavors of the church for the next fifty years. The December Minutes of 1929 noted that Mrs. Daniel was in charge of the program. She was also appointed



Leader of the Girls Auxiliary at that meeting. That was the first of her many leadership positions. In 1934 she was elected president of the society and served until 1938 when she was elected to serve as Superintendent of the Woman's Missionary Union of the Atlantic Association. During her years in this office, she traveled up and down the association, visiting and organizing new societies. In 1946 Mrs. Daniel was chosen as Superintendent of the Rocky Mount Division. The Division was composed of the Atlantic, Neuse and Roanoke Associations. At the time that our Mrs. Daniel (Christine) was Associational Superintendent her sister-in-law, Mrs. Charlie (Mary) Daniel of Weldon, was Superintendent of the Roanoke Association. They kept a good natured rivalry going at the meetings concerning attendance and other points on the Standard of Excellence. Their mother-in-law, Mrs. W. E. Daniel of Weldon, a stalwart Baptist and a pioneer in W.M.U. sat over in a corner benevolently observing them. You could tell that she was proud of both of them.

"Miss Christine's" other places of service during those same years included Y.W.A. Counselor, Circle Leader, W.M.U. President again in the forties and Leader of the Craven-Pamlico Group. Her passion was to have a society in every church in our Association.

No Missionary Society ever had a better friend or more ardent supporter than Louis Broaddus Daniel. He enjoyed

telling about his missionary society background. His mother drew maps of Paul's Missionary Journeys on Flour Sacks for her programs. Later she made garments of clothing out of them for her sons. Mr. Daniel said that they were probably the only boys who wore Paul's Missionary Journeys on their backs.

New Bern, N. C.

August, 16, 1943.

My dear Miss Currin,

I have not actually said that I am so glad that you are our new Secretary, but I have thought it so many times. Really, I feel that God has been so good in letting N. C. Woman's Missionary Union have you step right in and take up at such a time as this. Your letter in response to your acceptance of this great work was fine, and I will pray that God will, in a very peculiar way, bless you in this Work.

I am sending you name and address of a new society that has just been organized, and they would like to have State Missions literature. I was over there for their monthly meeting last week, and even though they are small, I believe they will do a good work.

Mrs. H. L. Croom, President.

New Bern, N.

R. F. D. #2

SPRING GARDEN, CHURCH "

Mrs. L. B. Pate, New Bern, N. C. R. F. D. #2 is the program chairman, and since they are so far apart, I suggest that you send program material to her.

With love,

Christine
(Mrs L. B. Daniel).

A roster of the membership which was published in the local newspaper in 1937 showed that the society was growing.

SOCIETY ROSTER

The following compose the Missionary Society of the First Baptist church:

Ruth Walden circle: Mrs. M. W. Green, leader; Mrs. Z. V. Parker, Mrs. N. B. Crowe, Mrs. Fred Miller, Mrs. R. C. Lancaster, Mrs. E. Whorton, Mrs. R. J. Sheppard, Mrs. J. W. Morton, Mrs. L. G. Badham, Mrs. C. L. White, Jr., Mrs. W. P. Cherry, Mrs. Glen Burkhardt, Mrs. D. L. Morrell, Mrs. Homer Miller, Mrs. J. E. Slater, Sr., Mrs. J. B. Lovelace, Mrs. T. E. Bell, Mrs. W. R. Lowery, Mrs. L. R. Tucker, Mrs. J. W. Mitchell and Mrs. W. C. Carlton.

Elkin Lockett circle: Mrs. Tom Blow, leader; Mrs. Jennie Peek, Mrs. C. P. Harker, Mrs. L. J. Grantham, Mrs. B. M. Potter, Mrs. W. J. Lucas, Mrs. A. L. Waters, Mrs. Roy Faison, Mrs. B. F. Hagood, Mrs. J. A. Godwin, Mrs. F. H. Whitty, Mrs. Norman Kellum, Mrs. T. E. Riddick, Mrs. E. M. Ballanger, Mrs. George B. Waters, Mrs. J. H. Sawyer, Mrs. K. J. Eaton, Mrs. Penelope Davenport, Mrs. D. J. Willis, Mrs. A. S. Hardison and Mrs. H. B. Jones.

Juliet Blanchard circle, Mrs. L. B. Daniel, leader; Mrs. Richard Mohn, Mrs. S. H. Fowler, Mrs. C. A. Ballenger, Mrs. Bertha Thomas, Mrs. J. L. Riggs, Mrs. Raymond Maxwell, Mrs. J. T. Kennedy, Mrs. J. W. Goulding, Mrs. J. V. Jenkins, Mrs. R. C. Godwin, Mrs. A. M. Rae, Mrs. John Lincoln, Mrs. E. J. Wood, Mrs. C. H. Falls, Mrs. J. W. Sledge, Mrs. A. J. Fraddy, Miss Henry Metts, Mrs. Carrie Cole and Mrs. T. D. Carraway.

Katie Murray circle; Mrs. R. A. Thompson, leader; Mrs. W. K. Russell, Mrs. C. L. Carter, Mrs. J. B. Osborne, Mrs. C. H. Hall, Sr., Mrs. O. C. Dibble, Mrs. Joe Miller, Mrs. E. E. Davis, Miss Florence Pearce, Mrs. L. B. Newland, Mrs. C. G. Carrawan, Sr., Mrs. W. L. Lewis, Mrs. N. E. Mohn, Mrs. Frank Harrell, Mrs. S. E. Wilson, Mrs. C. H. Dixon, Mrs. P. C. Stewart, Mrs. S. H. Hancock, Mrs. B. G. Harker and Mrs. R. L. Jenkins.

ADDRESSES CLUB

Miss Gertrude Carraway spoke to the Junior Woman's club at the

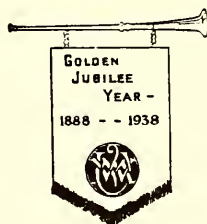
The financial records reflected the fostering of the young people's organizations through money expended. A check was issued for a Y.W.A. Supper, a check for the girls to attend the G. A. Houseparty at Meredith College and money was sent to Ridgecrest for girls to attend the YWA Camp.


Other activities were noted through expenditures. A check for \$5.00 was sent to Mrs. Armstrong at Vandemere on a Piano. A contribution of \$5.00 was made to the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. A record was shown of \$12.50 freight on towels and linens sent to the North Carolina Baptist Hospital, Winston-Salem, N.C. A check for \$2.00 was written to Mrs. McLawhorn for something! Money was spent for books for mission study.


Several checks were forwarded to the Associational W.M.U.

for the Golden Jubilee. Mrs. Z. V. Parker was Golden Jubilee Chairman. Four of the members attended the Golden Jubilee Celebration in Richmond, Va., in May of 1938. They were Mrs. C. H. Dixon, Mrs. N. E. Mohn, Mrs. J. B. Lovelace and Mrs. J. P. Warren.

Periodic checks were transmitted for the Hundred Thousand Club. This was a plan implemented in the years 1933-43 to pay the debts of the Southern Baptist Convention. Members of the club paid one dollar per month over and above their regular contributions to their churches.



		No. _____
NEW BERN, N.C. <i>Dec 12</i> 1933		
PAY TO THE ORDER OF <i>Mrs. F. A. McKinley Sr.</i>	<i>Twenty</i>	\$ <i>20.00</i>
<i>From rem. for Gold End</i>		DOLLARS
TO BRANCH BANKING & TRUST CO.		
NEW BERN, N.C.		<i>Mrs. H. L. Lucas</i>

		No. _____
NEW BERN, N.C. <i>Dec 12</i> 1933		
PAY TO THE ORDER OF <i>Mrs. Elsie Hunter</i>	<i>Thirty eight - 8/100</i>	\$ <i>38.00</i>
<i>Let's move up</i>		DOLLARS
TO BRANCH BANKING & TRUST CO.		
NEW BERN, N.C.		<i>Mrs. H. L. Lucas</i>

Around 1938 Names of Circles began to appear in the financial records in the place of Circles by Number. The Katie Murry Circle was named for a native North Carolina Missionary who was an Evangelistic Worker and Bible Teacher in Chengchow, China. A circle was named in honor of Miss Ruth Walden, a teacher in a Baptist Girls' School in Abeokuta, Nigeria. The Elkin Lockett Circle was named for the wife of Basil Lee Lockett, a Medical Missionary in Nigeria.

It would be interesting to know why our mothers chose the name of Miss Elsie B. Clor. She was not the usual Southern Baptist Missionary. Miss Clor was born in Russia in 1894 and came to America with her parents when she was four months old. She was raised in an Orthodox Jewish Home. As a girl she attended the B.Y.P.U. at a settlement house. After she found The Messiah, she was baptized and her family drove her away from home one cold, snowy night. She trained as a nurse and served with the Red Cross in France. She felt the call to serve God in Palestine. Southern Baptists had no work there so she went out in 1921 under Faith Mission. Later Southern Baptists began work in Jerusalem and she accepted an appointment of the Foreign Mission Board in 1927. She served there until her retirement January 1, 1942.



The Juliet Blanchard Circle was in honor of a former member.

The pastor's wife, Mrs. R. A. Thompson was elected to serve the society as president for the year 1939.

The forties began with Mrs. O. C. Dibble as president.

In 1941 the onslaught of World War II caught New Bern totally unprepared. The city was overrun with servicemen. There were no accommodations for the soldiers, sailors and marines. Several Military Installations were built in and around the area. Homes were opened and our mothers who could not cook for their own sons gladly fed these young men, southern style.

More than forty-five of our young men were serving in the Armed Forces around the world. The society sent a Daily

Devotional Book to each one of them. The ladies visited the sick and wounded men in the hospital at the Marine Corps Air Station at Cherry Point and carried fruit to them. They organized to serve and minister weekly at the United Services Organization. Every week-end home made cakes were furnished for the servicement who came to the U.S.O. This was done for many years until the U.S.O. closed in New Bern. The Armed Services Division of The Salvation Army presented A Certificate of Award to the Women of the The First Baptist Church for outstanding service to men and women of the Armed Forces. The award is dated February, 1955.

During these dark and trying days our women were busy ministering to each other with words and deeds of encouragement and comfort. Four of our young men lost their lives in the service of their country.

The society continued to meet and function. Their Mission Study Courses reached an all time high in 1943. Seven books were studied, "Christianity Our Citadel," "God and Man In Missions," "W.M. U. at Work," "Missionary Lessons in The Bible," "So This Is Africa," "Dangerous Opportunity," and "Stewardship in The Life of Women." Mrs. R. L. Jenkins was the Mission Study Chairman.

The ladies were faithful in sponsoring the young people's organizations.

During the war years, 1943, 44 and 45, the Associational W.M.U. held its annual meeting at First Baptist Church because of its location, the transportation situation and the availability for the women to shop. Our ladies were glad to help in this way.

Following the war the women helped in relief efforts especially in Italy. They regularly sent clothes and food to relieve the suffering in that country. They did not forget our own Hospital in Winston-Salem. They participated in the Linen Shower on Mother's Day. They contributed to the State W.M.U. to furnish dinner for the young ladies at the W.M.U. Training School in Louisville, Ky. at Thanksgiving and Easter. Checks were sent to the World Relief and Rehabilitation Fund.

Dr. Lula Disosway, a New Bernian and missionary under appointment of the Episcopal Diocese, spoke to the society in



Intermediate Girls Auxiliary 1940

Standing L to R Carolyn Waldrop, Marie Dees, Selma Perry, Margaret Faison, Lucille Sawyer, Page Daniel, Jeanette Harrison, Jean Benners, Faye Rowe.

Seated, L to R Jane Marshall Jenkins, Assistant Counselor, Opal Waters, Velma Stewart, Jewel Wade, Linda Taylor, Mary Lib Pugh, Mrs. J. H. Sawyer, G.A. Counselor.

March, 1945. She told of her work in Medical Missions in China and Alaska.

The year 1946 began with 65 members and 20 tithers. One of the highlights of the year was having Miss Mary Herring visit the society in June. She was the youngest of the famous Herring Missionary Family. She was born in China and returned to serve as a missionary there until 1942.

The names, Mamie Hall Circle and Louise Medling Circle began to appear. W. R. and Louise Medling were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1946 to serve in Japan. They were supported by First Baptist Church as a Living Memorial to the four young men of our church who fell in battle during the war. The women corresponded regularly with Mrs. Medling, sent items and money to help her with her work with the W.M.U. in her Church in Kumamoto, Japan. Theirs was a close relationship for many years.

In July of 1946 the Rocky Mount Division sponsored a Junior



This picture of the Ghent Circle was taken at a Luncheon Meeting at the home of Mrs. L. T. Grantham sometime in 1945. This circle was composed of women who lived on Park, Spencer and Rhem Avenues and in DeGraffenried Park. The Reverend Thomas W. Fryer and the president, Mrs. C. H. Hall were guests at the luncheon. Left to right, Mr. Fryer, Mrs. J. H. Sawyer, Mrs. R. L. Dixon. Second row from top, Mrs. C. H. Hall, Mrs. H. B. Jones, Mrs. S. H. Fowler, Mrs. R. L. Jenkins, Mrs. W. P. Cherry. Bottom row, Mrs. L. B. Daniel, Mrs. L. T. Grantham and Mrs. J. W. Morton.

Royal Ambassador and Girl's Auxiliary Camp at Fisher's Landing about eight miles east of New Bern on Neuse River. The Divisional Superintendent, Divisional Young People's Leader and Association Young People's Leader were members of our church, so the ladies of our society were pressed into service to staff the camp and attend to the cooking and kitchen chores. Miss Hilda Mayo, State WMU Young People's Leader was Camp Director.

The following item appeared in the society's financial records in 1947, "April 30, 1947 - \$25.00 to Mrs. N. L. Winberry Building Fund Kellum Church." This church is located on Highway U.S. 17 between Maysville and Jacksonville and was in our association at that time. It joined the New River Association when it was formed in the fifties.

The church voted to purchase a set of china to serve 125

people. The plates, cups, saucers and bowls were to be imprinted with a picture of the church. The cost of the dishes was to be raised by ordering extra dinner plates and selling them to the members as treasured souvenirs at a cost of \$5.00 per plate.

Mrs. J. W. Morton stated to the church in session, April 10, 1947 that the W.M.U. in Executive Session had decided to assume the responsibility of selling the plates to raise the money to pay for the new dishes. The names of those who purchased plates, the date and amount paid and the date that the plates were delivered are recorded in Mrs. Morton's Handwriting in a Ledger. There are some of those treasured souvenirs still around.

In the monthly conference July 10, 1947, the church voted to adopt the Unified or Coordinated Plan of Church Government. Some of the members of the Missionary Society were not too pleased by this action. They were not quite ready to let go of the management and collection of their offerings and finances. There were strong feelings pro and con. They had a meeting to decide finally which way the society would go. I went by the church about the time I thought that the meeting would adjourn. Mr. A. L. Waters, Chairman of the Building and Grounds Committee was standing by the gate. I asked him if he had seen my mother. He said, "yes, I helped her out of the door." "Oh, my," I said, "It must have been worse than I thought." But that was not the case! The area around the front entrance had been roped off because some repair work was being done on the tower. He had helped her weave her way through the scaffolding and ropes.

Five of our members went to Elizabeth City in March 1949 to attend the Annual Meeting of The State Woman's Missionary Union. They were Mrs. C. H. Dixon, Mrs. N. E. Mohn, Mrs. J. B. Lovelace, Mrs. C. S. Hardison and Miss Jane Marshall Jenkins. Miss Jenkins brought the report of the Time and Place Committee.



Mrs. J. B. Lovelace standing on George Street beside the Mohn House waiting for Mrs. Mohn to go to Elizabeth City. It is now the COMMISSION HOUSE OF THE TRYON PALACE COMPLEX.



The Reverend Charles E. Parker came as pastor in October 1949. He was always a supporter of Woman's Missionary Union. His good wife, Elizabeth was active in the society while she taught school. After their retirement to New Bern and her retirement from teaching, Mrs. Parker became a prime mover in the work of W.M.U. and Baptist Women until her death in September 1988.

REV. CHARLES E. PARKER

NORTH CAROLINA BAPTIST HOSPITALS, INC.
WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA

June 21, 1945.

W. M. U.,
First Baptist Church,
New Bern, N. C.

Dear Friends:

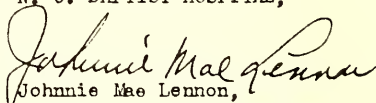
Please accept our thanks for the nice donation of linen, which you sent us some days ago. We have been quite busy in our work here, hence the delay in acknowledging same.

We are indeed grateful for this donation and we assure you that it will prove a blessing to the sick of our state. It is gifts like yours that help us to carry on.

We invite you to visit us at any time you find it convenient. We need your prayers and your contributions to help us with this great work of healing.

Sincerely yours,

N. C. BAPTIST HOSPITAL,


Johnnie Mae Lennon,
Secretary on Contributions.

"If you cannot cross the ocean, and the heathen lands explore"

"You can find the heathen nearer, you can help them at your door"

During World War II and the latter forties the ladies became concerned because there was no church or work in the

Active Membership - 1946

Mrs. Joe Anderson

" T. G. Blaw

" Arthur Barber

" W. F. Cherry

" T. J. (Harvey)

" Carmel Cole

" L. B. Daniel

" Corneise Davenport

" Roy Dixon

" Carlyle "

" V. C. Dibble

" B. H. Fowler

~~" H. F. Feller~~

" L. C. Godwin

" A. J. Grady

" L. F. Grantham

" Robert Hardner

" Nora Harrison

" B. C. Harrison

" B. G. Harker

" H. S. Hancock

" C. H. Hall

" Russel Hendren

" E. G. Hill

" R. L. Jenkins

" H. B. Jones

" Van Jenkins

" John Lincoln

" J. B. Lovelace

" Jos. Lewis

" W. R. Lowery

~~" E. B. Mitchell~~

" J. W. Merton

" Raymond Maxwell

" A. C. Mellus

" N. E. Mohr

Miss Lomny Mott

Mrs. J. J. Mabe

" L. B. Newland

" J. B. Osborne

" B. M. Potter

" J. K. Rooks

" F. E. Ruddock

" W. K. Russell

" Leslie Rigg

" J. E. Slater

" R. J. Shepard

" J. W. Sherrill

" J. H. Sawyer

" P. C. Stewart

" Walter Smith

" L. F. Thompson

" J. A. Toler

" George Waters

" C. G. Wilson

" L. M. White

" K. R. Wade

" A. " ~~and~~

" Chas. Wilson

" Weston Willis ^{Moved away}

" W. L. Reich

B.R.

9

active

Program

Craven-Pamlico Group

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION

of the

ATLANTIC ASSOCIATION

Theme—"Go Ye and Make Disciples of All the Nations"

Hymn—"We've a Story to Tell to the Nations"

Prayer—

Greetings Mrs. R. L. Jenkins

Response Mrs. G. P. Midgett

Devotional Mrs. G. B. Pate

BUSINESS SESSION

Recognition of Visitors

Roll Call of Societies

Song—"Jesus Calls Us"

Reports of Associational Officers

Miss Jane Marshall Jenkins Young People's Leader

Mrs. John Lashley Supt. of Association

Duet—"Hark the Voice of Jesus Calling"

(Mrs. R. W. Davis and Mrs. A. L. Dail)

Missionary Message—"Go Ye" Mrs. T. W. Fryer

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

May 20, 1947

10 A. M.

New Bern, N. C.

Havelock-Cherry Point area. Thousands of marines were stationed at the Marine Corps Air Station. Many of them had brought their families to the area. Civilian employee families were there also. When there seemed to be no impetus in the local churches, two W.M.U. members, Mrs. L. B. Daniel and Mrs. R. L. Jenkins, contacted the Baptist State Convention relative to starting some work in the area. The convention did

not feel that it could help in that endeavor at that time and the request was returned to the local churches. Some mission work was begun in the early fifties.

When the appeal and pleas reached the ears and heart of Mrs. C. Gordon Maddrey, President of North Carolina, Woman's Missionary Union, things began to happen. Mrs. Maddey made a visit to New Bern. She spoke to the women of the association, Sunday afternoon, February 15, 1953, in our church. She brought the message at the Evening Worship Service. In the meantime, two men had come to our church who were anxious to see a church at Cherry Point-Havelock. The Rev. C.E. Parker, pastor and Colonel George W. Martin, U.S.M.C. stationed at Cherry Point were very supportive of the women in their efforts.

Mrs. Maddrey invited Colonel Martin to speak at the State W.M.U. Convention meeting in Wilmington in March 1953, about the needs for a church in the military community. Mrs. Maddrey was well known for, "Running a tight ship," for being well in control and keeping her meetings on schedule. When Colonel Martin mounted the pulpit in his Dress Blues, stiff as a ramrod, his black wavy hair well groomed, I felt Mrs. Maddrey's control of her ladies slip a little. She did not have to use her gavel, however. There were no audible "oos and ahs," but there were many nods of approval and help was on the way.

The fifties was a busy decade. The church hosted the State Evangelistic Conference in February 1952. The W.M.U. was most helpful in serving on committees and arranging for the hospitality of the Program Personalities.

The church started a mission at Cherry Point and the women were very much involved in this mission endeavor.

An item in the Church Bulletin, Sunday July 20, 1952, was welcomed news to the women of the Society.

Monday 3:30 P.M. W.M.U. General Meeting
 Church Air Conditioned.

The mission fervor grew to the point that another mission was started on National Avenue in the north west section of the city. This mission was organized October 4, 1953. The women

of the society were happy with this development but saddened at the loss of several of their key members. They were greatly missed. Among them were Mrs. Carlyle Dixon, Mrs. O.C. Dibble, Mrs. Joe W. Lewis, Mrs. J. B. Lovelace, Mrs. Walter W. Smith, Mrs. A. Wade, Mrs. K. R. Wade, Mrs. U.B. Williams and Mrs. Alton Whitty.

The Annual Associational Meeting was held at our church, March 27, 1953, with the Women's Hymn, "COME WOMEN, WIDE PROCLAIM," as the theme. The State W.M.U. President, Mrs. C. Gordon Maddrey, spoke on, "Pray, Work, Yet More." Her vivacious personality and her deep commitment to missions were an added attraction. Miss Olive Lawton spoke during the morning session on, "Christ Whom all Earth Shall Seek." She brought the closing message in the afternoon, "By His Love Up-borne." Who better to know that than, "Miss Olive." She was born in China and served as a missionary there from 1924 until she was interned by the Japanese in 1942. She was repatriated in 1943. Following the war she served in Formosa. It was an inspiring and uplifting meeting.

Two members attended the W.M.U. Week at Ridgecrest in August, 1953, Mrs. C. H. (Madge) Dixon and Miss Jane Marshall Jenkins. They were accompanied by Miss Edith Lewis of Marshallberg who was the sister of Ralph Lewis. There was many a word said and many a laugh had among that trio.

Our women were hostess for the Associational W.M.U. Leadership Conference, October 22, 1954. Miss Ernelle Brooks, a native daughter, brought the missionary message of the day. She was a missionary nurse and a staff member of the Baptist Girls' School, Abeokuta, Nigera, West Africa. Ernelle was born in our community, was brought up in our church and baptized February 22, 1926 upon her profession of faith. She moved to Greenville, N.C. with her family August 22, 1928. It was with great pleasure that the women of our society welcomed their daughter into their midst.

The first State Young Women's Auxiliary Houseparty was held in February 1955 at Campbell College. Several of our young women attended the houseparty.



Young Woman's Auxiliary was 50 years old in 1957. The Associational Y.W.A. Council observed the Golden Anniversary at a celebration hosted by our young women, August 23, 1957. The speaker for the celebration was Mrs. Gilmer Cross of Goldsboro, N.C., Superintendent, W.M.U. of the Rocky Mount Division. The refreshment table featured the golden motif even to the icing on the cake. The Table was decorated with dolls of the 1907 and 1957 periods. The dolls were dressed by Mrs. Madge Dixon.

In the fall of 1957 the State W.M.U. implemented a plan to combine the overnight leadership institute with the Regional Meetings. The overnight institute for the Rocky Mount Region was held at our church. The State W.M.U. Personnel led the conferences on methods. Miss Inabelle Coleman, Missionary to Taiwan, brought the missionary messages. And what marvelous messages they were! She had served in China and was interned during the war.

Mrs. V. J. Chance of our Society was elected President of the 78 member Hospital Auxiliary of the Eastern North Carolina Baptist Hospital. After Kafer Hospital closed, the baptists of the Atlantic Association operated it as a Baptist Hospital for a short time.

The society decided in 1956 to invite the State W.M.U. to meet in New Bern for its 1958 Annual Session. That decision did not come easily or lightly. There were no facilities to accommodate the large number of women who would attend except the auditorium at the Shrine Temple. An auditorium was not the most ideal setting for a WMU Convention; however, there were some women across the state who had attended the Evangelistic Conference here who felt that the

setting would afford a good meeting. There were strong feelings that it would be a boost to the societies in the eastern part of the state to have a State Convention here.

The 67th Annual Convention met March 11-13, 1958 and the ladies came, 1628 of them. Many of them attended a State Convention for the first and probably last time. There is something special about having a convention in a small town. The whole town cooperates. It was a gigantic undertaking, but a richly rewarding one. Mrs. George V. McCotter, W.M.U. President and Mrs. C. W. McEnally, General Chairman of the local committee, worked long and hard to make the convention a success. Our pastor, the Reverend Charles E. Parker, was of tremendous help.



Mrs. George V. McCotter -

Mrs. C. W. McEnally

Without the work of the following committees there would have been no convention. Call to worship and properties, Mrs. Charles E. Parker; arrangements, Mrs. Roy L. Dixon; badges and signs, Mrs. Herman Mattocks; registration, Mrs. V. J. Chance and Mrs. Frank Wade; music, Mrs. Andrew Fuller; publicity, Mrs. Marcus Edwards; ushers, Mrs. Clarence Lovell; special dinners, Mrs. M. W. Green; decorations and flowers, Mrs. Garnet Walker; transportation, Mrs. Eugene McSorley; timekeeper, Mrs. R. H. Mohn; nursery, Mrs. Al Laughinghouse and Mrs. Ward Laughinghouse; housing, Mrs. Raymond Maxwell; hostess and hospitality, Mrs. S. H. Fowler; baggage and information, Mrs. A. V. Thomas; first aid, Mrs. Paul Gillikin; secretary, Mrs. Woodrow (Dookie) Thomas; planning committee, Mrs. J. W. Morton and the following representatives from other Baptist churches in New Bern: Mrs. U.B. Williams, National Avenue;

Mrs. Fred Hughes Temple, Mrs. J. W. Oglesby, Tabernacle and Mrs. L. B. Pate, Spring Garden.

The Theme of the Convention was: FOLLOW - CHRIST LEADS

Mrs. Charles H. Hall extended the welcome to the ladies at the convention that met here in 1915 and at this convention. Miss Sophia Lanneau, Missionary Emeritus, China, was here for both of the conventions also. Immediately following Mrs. Hall's address of welcome on Tuesday Night, Miss Lanneau spoke on the topic, "To follow Thee Through Tyre and Sidon."



Mrs. C. H. Hall Miss Sophie Lanneau

This marvelous 78 year old christian soldier was appointed to China in 1907. She was an educational-evangelistic worker and was the founder and principal for Wei Ling Girls Academy, Soochow. Like others of our missionaries, she too was interned by the Japanese in World War II.

At the Federation of Baptist Business Women's Dinner on Wednesday Night, Miss Lanneau was seated beside the local chairman of the dinner. She asked the chairman, "Honey, did you do all of this work?" Her reply, "No ma'am, I was the chairman of the committee," brought forth a hearty chuckle from the missionary.

Miss Alma Hunt, Executive Secretary of the Southwide W.M.U. favored North Carolina Women with her gracious presence for the entire meeting. She spoke at the Wednesday Afternoon Session. The title of her message was, "Follow On-To Tell." As a native of Virginia Miss Hunt was extremely interested in the restoration of Tryon Palace which was near completion. Rumor has it that she charmed her way into a sneak preview and tour of the fabulous palace.

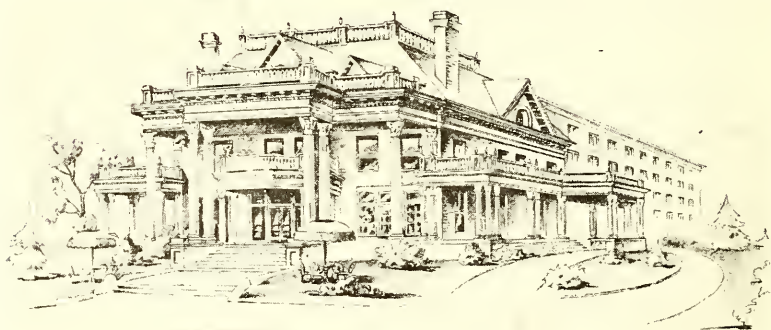


Miss Alma Hunt

Mrs. W. K. McGee

Mrs. J. Marse Grant, recording secretary, N.C. W.M.U. was given the privilege of devoting most of the March 20th issue of CHARITY and CHILDREN to the convention. Her coverage of the convention both in word and pictures was excellent.

Under the caption, "HOSPITABLE NEW BERN PUTS BEST FOOT FORWARD FOR WMU LADIES," She wrote, "The ladies of First Baptist Church, New Bern and the Atlantic Association did an excellent job of entertaining such a large number of visitors to their historic town.' 'More than 400 rooms in homes were made available and even ladies of other denominations joined in making the Baptist guests comfortable' 'Several churches served meals and at least one restaurant refrained from selling beer while the ladies were in town.' 'Big liquor ads continued to be run in the local newspaper; however, though it gave good coverage to the meeting.'"



QUEEN ANNE

New Bern, North Carolina

Although the Governor Tryon Hotel on South Front Street was the Convention Headquarters, the Queen Anne Hotel was a favorite with many of the delegates and visitors. They fell in love with this lovely mansion which had been converted into a beautiful hotel. It was only a block from the shrine Auditorium.



Mrs. R. H. Mohn, timekeeper and her assistant, Mrs. Norman Kellum were on the alert to flash that little red light on the speaker's stand if the speakers ran over their allotted time. The women kept their meeting on schedule.

Mrs. Clarence Lovell, Chairman of the Usher Committee, used every means available to keep the women quiet before and during the sessions.





Mrs. J. B. Osborne and Mrs. Roy L. Dixon of the Lost and Found

were sorting through the many pairs of misplaced gloves.



Missionaries; Mrs. T. Neil Johnson, Mrs. Frank Lide, Mrs. Harold Hurst and Miss Ernelle Brooks.

Mrs. Lide, Mrs. Hurst and Miss Brooks spoke during the Thursday Morning Session.

The women worked for several months preparing for these three days and nights, but they were well rewarded. The fond memories and the echo of those words, "Follow-Christ Leads," lingered long after the Guests, delegates and visitors had returned to their homes and churches. It was an experience that not many churches get to enjoy.

As soon as this meeting was over, preparations were begun for a week-long Sesquicentennial Celebration of one hundred and fifty years of glorious service of First Baptist Church.

Even though we did not have any women speakers and guests, our State W.M.U. First Vice President accompanied her husband for the Tuesday Night Service. Dr. Leroy Parker was serving as President of the N.C. Baptist State Convention at the same time that his wife, Sara, was our State W.M.U. First Vice President. It was always a joy to have Mrs. Parker.

Mrs. C. V. Rogers, our president, led the women in this glorious celebration.

The presidents who led the society in the first half of the decade were, Mrs. Roy L. Dixon, Mrs. Raymond Maxwell and Mrs. M. W. Green.

March 16, 1955

Queen Coronation Service Held Wednesday at First Baptist Church

An Impressive Queen's coronation service was held at the First Baptist church Wednesday night for Miss Sylvia Perry and Miss Jacqueline Grady of the Girls auxiliary of the Woman's Missionary union with Mrs. Charles E. Parker, young people's director of the WMU, presiding.

The church altar was arranged with six seven-branched candelabra holding lighted white tapers flanked by baskets of white gladioli before a background of palms and ferns. The purpose of the service was to give each an award and merited recognition for having completed "Forward Steps" by memorizing selected passages of Scripture and learning certain mission facts and denominational information.

The Girls auxiliary hymn, "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations" was sung and the Rev. C. E. Parker, pastor, read several verses from the seventeenth chapter of Revelations and gave the prayer. Miss Gail Colvard sang as a solo, "What Must I Give to Jesus." Miss Mickey Grady, organist and Miss Connie Hobby, pianist, served as accompanist for the service.

Richard Verrone, trumpeter, served as herald and the Maidens, wearing pastel evening gowns, entered the sanctuary and formed a semi-circle around the queens' throne. The Junior Maidens were Marilyn Munn, Mary Chan Lovell, Juanita Day, Beverly Martin, Helen Flythe, Judith Branch, Sandra Kilby, Bettina Hodge, Sylvia Piner, Ida Lindsey Stokes, Vicki Woodard and Susan McEnally who quoted scripture on, "Man's Need of a Gospel"; and Intermediate Maidens Kitty Whitty, Linda White, Donna Kilby and Patsy Northcutt, who quoted Scripture on "What the Sinner Must Do."

Mrs. M. W. Green, president of the WMU, and Mrs. Raymond Maxwell, vice president, pinned the green octagons on the Maidens and welcomed them as "Maidens in the King's Court."

Next the Ladies-in-Waiting entered, after being heralded by the trumpeter. The Junior Ladies-in-Waiting were Pat Jones, Sandra Riddout, Vicki McCotter, Temple Lewis and Mary Green; and Intermediate Ladies-in-Waiting were Adrian Waters, Dorothy Taylor, Sonia Mattocks, Rose Humphrey, Carolyn Holloway, Betty Jean Fike, Maile Swindell, Olivia Burnham and Connie Hobby, who gave

the "Mission and Characteristics of Christians," by quoting Scripture. They were presented stars, which were pinned in the center of their already-earned octagons and commended for their progress and told, "To grow as true Ladies-in-Waiting."

Miss Sheryl Clark Crowe was the only Princess. She entered alone and took her place by the throne and repeated Psalm 103. She was awarded the GA monogram, which was pinned in the center of her other two awards and charged that "The Princess is the true daughter of the King and should grow like Christ the King, binding her heart to Him in love and obedience."

Miss Perry, wearing a white formal gown, attended by Jetty Louise Jones, Sunbeam flower girl, and Lynn Edwards, crown-bearer, entered and gave the chief events in the life of Christ. As she knelt on a white satin pillow, Mrs. Parker crowned her and charged her "To live with a diadem in her dreams and to be a Queen in spirit and truth, gentle, gracious and good." She then took her place on the throne.

Miss Grady, wearing white formal gown, attended by Mary Beth Miller, Sunbeam flower girl, and Kenneth Powell, crown-bearer, entered and told "What It Means to Be a Christian." Mrs. Parker crowned her and gave her the charge "May you be crowned with service and queenly vision that you may ever crown Christ, King of Kings and Lord of all," after which she took her place beside Miss Perry on the throne.

The Rev. Mr. Parker spoke on the five star points: abiding in Him through prayer; advancing in wisdom by Bible study; stewardship; good works; and accepting the challenge of the great commission.

Ushers were Charles Lewis, Johnny Anderson, Billy Dowdy, III, and Harry Kahn, Jr., Royal Ambassadors, Mrs. Marcus Edwards and Mrs. Roy Miller, Jr., counselors of the Junior and Intermediate Girls auxiliaries, were commended for their lives of dedication and Miss Jane Marshall Jenkins gave the closing prayer.

Following the service, a reception was held in the ladies parlor of the church, which was arranged beautifully in keeping with a royal coronation. Around 400 were present for the service and reception.

Woman's Missionary Union

301 Hillsboro St., Raleigh, N. C.

Mrs. W. K. McGee, President

Miss Miriam Robinson, Executive Secretary



PLANNING COMMITTEE FOR STATE WMU CONVENTION

New Bern ... March 11-13

These are the committee chairmen who are busy now with the advance preparation for your March visit to New Bern, and will be right on hand to welcome you and to make your stay there pleasant and profitable. While they prepare for you, won't you be praying for them? They are:

Seated, from left to right: Mrs. Charles W. McEnally, General Chairman; Mrs. George V. McCotter, WMU President, First Baptist Church; Mrs. Charles E. Parker, wife of the pastor of First Baptist Church and chairman of the Call to Worship and Property Committee; Mrs. Roy Dixon, Arrangements; Mrs. Richard H. Mohr, Time-keeper; Mrs. Woodrow W. Thomas, Secretary; Mrs. Herman Mattocks, Badges and Signs;

Standing, left to right: Mrs. Steve Fowler, St., Hostesses and Hospitality; Mrs. Ray A. Stainback, Hostesses to Visiting Missionaries; Mrs. Marcus Edwards, Publicity; Mrs. V. J. Chance and Mrs. Frank Wade, Co-Chairmen of Registration; Mrs. M. W. Green, Special Dinners; Mrs. Clarence Lovell, Ushers; Mrs. Garnett Walker, Decorations and Flowers; Mrs. Raymond Maxwell, Housing; Mrs. L. B. Faye, Dinner Engagements; Mrs. Andrew W. Fuller, Music;

Not in Picture: Mrs. Eugene McSorley, Transportation; Mrs. Alton Laughinghouse and Mrs. Ward Laughinghouse, Nursery; . . . and the other members of each of these various committees.

To each of these we already owe a debt of gratitude.

*The Armed Services Division
of The Salvation Army
presents this*

Certificate of Award to

Women of the First Baptist Church

*for outstanding service to
men and women of the Armed Forces*



Wanda W. Smith
NATIONAL COMMANDER

M. M. Mahon
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Sarah E. Mahon
CLUB DIRECTOR

Certificate Presented to the Woman's Missionary Society, First Baptist Church, New
Bern, N.C. February 1955

Chapter V

Fields Are White and Harvests Waiting

Mrs. C. V. Rogers continued to lead the women into the decade of the sixties. She was a strong believer in Leadership Training and held Training Courses each year.

In the late fifties and early sixties circles were named in memory and in honor of members of the society. Those circles were, Carrie Cole Circle, Elizabeth Newland Circle, Mamie Hall Circle, Kate Lucas Circle, Mary Jenkins Circle, Ida Sawyer Circle, Lessie Huggins Circle and Christine Daniel Circle.

There were no minutes available for the fifties and none for the sixties until 1968. The Church Bulletin of Sunday, March 6, 1960 had an item that during the Week of Prayer for Home Missions, the W.M.U. would be in charge of the Wednesday Evening Services and a film strip, "Home Missions In Action," would be shown.

The society was active in fostering the Young People's Organizations. In the observance of Focus Week, a Coronation was held on Wednesday Night. Missus Susan McEnally, Patricia Jones, Temple Lewis and Faye McCotter were crowned Queens.

The program in August was, "Carest Thou Not," a study of

Japan. Col. Randolph C. Berkley Jr., U.S.M.A.C., Cherry Point, N.C. showed slides that he made during his tour of duty in Japan.

On Wednesday Night, May 17, 1961, a Girls' Auxiliary and Presentation Service was held with a Reception following the Service. There were seven maidens, Ann Meekins, Celia Goulding, Jettie Jones, Dorothy Kay Russell, Paula Jones, Beth McPhail and Candace MacSwain. There were seven Ladies-In-Waiting also, Allynna Taylor, Beverly Chance, Kathy Welch, Connie Tyndall, Louise Lovell, Alma Rambo and Machaele Hooks.



The Rev. Fred A. Mauney and his wife, Martha at the Reception.

The theme of the program was, "SAVED TO SERVE." The Princesses were: Sandy Johnson, Mary Beth Miller, Jane Thomas, Kathleen Munns, Janice Lee Ridoutt, Sherry Watson, Susan Goulding, Linda Yohn, Phillis Tooker and Linda Ratledge.

Each of the Queens was crowned by her mother. Those earning the step of Queen were, Miss Boyd King, Miss Mary Chan Lovell, Miss Judy Crump, Miss Barbara Chance, Miss Sandra Southerland and Miss Lynn Watson.

Samples of the Work accomplished by the three Sunbeam Bands were on display in the Fellowship Hall during the Reception Hour.



Plans were in motion for the celebration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of Girls Auxiliary in the year 1963. A Queens Court was held at Meredith College in June 1961 for Intermediate Queens. Misses Barbara Chance, Lynn Watson, Mary Chan Lovell, Sandra Southerland, and their counselor, Mrs. J. K. Watson, attended the Court.

A decision was made in October, 1961 for the society and Young People's Organizations to have their meetings at the same time on Wednesday Night following the Prayer Service.

W.M.S. had been meeting on Tuesday Night, Y.W.A. met on Thursday Night and G.A.'s and Sunbeams met on Monday Afternoon.

The Associational W.M.U. met for its annual session March 30, 1962 at Tabernacle Church, New Bern. Our society presented a skit, "My Church Reaching Out."

There was a G.A. Coronation, Sunday Night, May 20, 1962.

Mrs. Robert King, Jr., President, designated June 11-16 as Enlistment Week for our W.M.S. There was a reception on Friday Night to honor the ladies who had joined the society within the past year.

A film, "How To Visit In The Hospital," was used for the program at the General Meeting in November.

The policy of a six day observance of The Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions was continued in December of 1962.

The Brotherhood and W.M.S. had a joint meeting in January 1963. Mr. and Mrs. William A. Mitchner of Oxford, N.C. presented the program. This couple had visited many of our Home and Foreign Mission Fields and they had much to tell our people about the Mission Work of Southern Baptists.

Our President, Mrs. Robert King, Jr., Mrs. Malcolm Bizzell and Miss Jane Marshall Jenkins attended the Seventy-Second Annual Session Woman's Missionary Union auxiliary to the State Baptist Convention of North Carolina in Charlotte, N.C. March 12-14, 1963. The Theme was, "We've A Story To Tell," observing the Fiftieth Anniversary of the organization of Girls' Auxiliary. The highlight of the convention was the, "Fiftieth Anniversary," a pageant portraying the 50 years of Girls' Auxiliary since its organization in 1913.

On May 19, 1963 A Coronation and Reception was held. It was a joint Commemoration of the Seventy-fifth Anniversary of W.M.U., S.B.C. and the Fiftieth Anniversary Presentation of Girls' Auxiliary. A Mother-Daughter G.A. Banquet was held June 19, 1963 in the Fellowship Hall.

The church dedicated its new Educational Building and Facilities, Sunday Afternoon, May 19, 1963. This provided

better space for the meeting and working of our W.M.U. Organizations.

The new president, Mrs. J. Ben Warren, carefully planned for the Atlantic Associational W.M.U. Leadership Conference to be held at our church, Thursday, September 19, 1963. Miss Miriam Robinson, State Secretary, Miss Sara Ann Hobbs, State Y.W.A. Director and Mrs. Robert L. Costner, State Community Missions Director, led the Leadership Training.

The Woman's Missionary Society at Spring Garden invited us to their Foreign Mission Study, November 25, 1963. We feasted on a Covered Dish Supper and on the study taught by the Reverend Henry A. Privette, Associational Missionary.

Under the leadership of Mrs. R. A. Stainback, the Society participated in a School of Missions in February 1966. Study Courses were taught to the age level groups each night of the week. A different missionary spoke to the combined groups each night also.

The Pastor, Fred A. Mauney, asked the Society to consider giving a Religious Program on Sunday Afternoon at the Green Rest Home.

The Associational W.M.U. met in its Annual Session April 14, 1966 with our church. Mrs. Ray Stainback and her ladies prepared well for the meeting. Miss Katherine Bullard, State W.M.S. Director represented the State W.M.U. and spoke on the Theme, "Proclaiming The Everlasting Gospel."

The young women were busy with their activities. They had a Y.W.A. -Mother-Daughter Banquet in July. The Y.W.A. presented the program at the General Meeting of the Society in October.

During the December Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions, Dr. Luther Copeland, Professor of Missions, Southeastern Seminary, was the speaker on Wednesday Night.

The Society was blessed to have the Home Missions Study Course, February 23, 1967 taught by Mrs. W. L. Robertson of Henderson, N.C. Mrs. Robertson the former Mary Currin was well known by our women. She served as State Young People's Secretary January 1935-July 1943 and State W.M.U. Executive

Secretary July 1943-May 1945. And more than that, she was the sister of our president, Mrs. Joyce Currin Stainback. It was a joy to listen to her exuberance as she talked about the mission work that she loved so much.

The Sunbeam Band, Girls' Auxiliaries, Young Woman's Auxiliary and Womans' Missionary Society met together during Sunbeam Band Focus Week of August 1967 for the, "Christmas In August Program." Boxes of supplies were sent to Home Missionaries for use in their work. Items sent were toilet articles, crayons, art paper, scissors and craft supplies.

Mrs. Harry Douglass was elected president in October 1967. The General Meeting of the W.M.S. was moved to Monday Night. Following the recommendation of the Southern and State Unions the circles were named groups. The women could choose to join a Mission Action Group, a Mission Bible Study Group, a Current Missions Group or a Mission Prayer Group. Their choice was not limited. They were free to join as many groups as they wished. The Circle Names were dropped. The groups were usually identified by the group type and the Group Leader's Name.

The following item appeared in the Church Bulletin on Mother's Day, May 12, 1968. "The flowers are given today in honor and in memory of our mothers by the Woman's Missionary Union."

The Society held a Week-long Mission Vacation Bible School at night at the Trent Court Community Building in July. This was in a Government Housing Project. The church sponsored a Mission Sunday School there for many years.

In the November Meeting, Mrs. J. R. Garver, President, read a letter from the U.S.O. thanking the women for the cakes provided for the servicemen who visited the center.

The time for the W.M.S. Meeting was changed from Wednesday Night to Monday Night after the first Sunday in the Chapel. The groups would meet on Monday and Tuesday Nights after the third Sunday.

Mrs. Ray Stainback and Mrs. Alton Whitty attended The Prayer Retreat at Emerald Isle. Much of the emphasis and

prayer was on The Crusade of the Americas.

Early in 1969 The Mission Action Groups made plans to send the child of a hearing impaired couple to Play School. This was filling a real need for him to be around children.

The Reverend Russell Tally, Retired Lt. Commander, USN, Pastor at First Baptist Church, Havelock, N.C., gave the July Program. His message was most informative on the needs of military people. Mrs. C. E. Parker gave the names of men in our church who were in the military services to several women who volunteered to write letters to them.

It was reported in the August Meeting that a Clothing Closet had been set up in a small room adjacent to the Choir Room.

The W.M.U. Yearbooks for 1969-1970 were dedicated to the Reverend Charles Edward Parker, a former pastor, who died in September, 1969. He and Mrs. Parker retired in New Bern in 1967. The first copy of the yearbook was presented to Mrs. Parker at the October Meeting.

The women participated in, "Operation Pay-off," in June of 1970. This was one of the plans to pay off the indebtedness on Camp Mundo Vista. Each W.M.S. was asked to set a goal of one dollar per member for the Heck Jones Memorial Offering for 1970 and 1971. The Girls' Auxiliary presented a skit on the Heck Jones Memorial Offering and Operation Pay-off at the June W.M.S. Meeting.

The women held a Vacation Bible School in Pamlico County for the children of migrant workers in that area. This became a mission project for several years. Health kits were assembled and given to the children.

Some of the members visited Cherry Hospital, a branch of our State Hospital, in Goldsboro, N.C. They were distressed at the need for Hymn Books in the Chapel. After they returned home, the need was voiced and twenty Broadman Hymnals were sent to the hospital.

Ever eager to cooperate, the Society restructured its organization to the new proposal. In October 1970 W.M.S. became Baptist Women for women over 30 years old. Baptist Young Women became a new organization for young adult

women, age 18-29. Intermediate and Junior Girls' Auxiliaries became Acteens and Girls in Action. The Sunbeam Band became Mission Friends for children from birth through 5 years. Mrs. R. A. Stainback was elected W.M.U. Director and Mrs. R. J. Hall was elected President of Baptist Women.

The Acteens presented a skit at the May 1971 Baptist Women's Meeting entitled, "Mundo Vista, Operation Pay-off." They used attractive posters and closed with a clever little song, "Look What A Dollar Can Do."

Eight of the Girls In Action attended Camp at Mundo Vista in July.

A successful Migrant Bible School was held in July with 85 attending.

In observance of W.M.U. Focus Week in February 1972 A Tea was held at the home of Mrs. Cyril Edwards, W.M.U. Director. All of the newer women of the church were especially honored.

Mrs. John Lane and Mrs. H. L. Winfield attended the Annual Convention of Woman's Missionary Union, SBC meeting in Philadelphia, Pa. in June of 1972. They made interesting reports at the Baptist Women's meeting.

The shut-ins of the church were visited on a regular basis. A clothing closet was maintained, cakes furnished to the United Services Organization and transportation was provided to take two children to Nursery School. Inspirational Cards were placed on the meal trays at Craven County Hospital. A family in a rural area was assisted whose home was burned. At Christmas 25 children were provided with clothes and toys. The elderly people at French Nursing Home and Neuse Forest Nursing Home and Shut-ins were visited and remembered with gifts.

Baptist Women voted in the September 1973 meeting to combine all of the group meetings for October into a joint Salad Supper. It was such a success that it became an annual occasion; however, it has been changed to the month of September.

We were privileged to have our State W.M.U. President, Mrs. Gilmer Cross, teach the Foreign Mission Study for 1973.

Mrs. Cross had served in several Rocky Mount W.M.U. Divisional Offices while her husband was pastor at First Baptist Church, Goldsboro, N.C.

The Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions began Sunday Morning, December 3, 1973 with Prayer Meditation at 8:30 a.m. in the Chapel followed by a light breakfast in the Fellowship Hall.

The women participated in the Associational School of Missions in February of 1974. The Reverend J. Alexander Herring was our Host Missionary. During the week a native son, Dr. Nathan Brooks, taught our Home Mission Study, "Evangelism, The Cutting Edge."

The Week of Prayer for Home Missions in March began on Sunday Afternoon with a Special Worship Service at 5:30 p.m. The Acteens dramatized the life of Miss Annie Armstrong through a play, "What is Left of a Life." A light supper was served in the Fellowship Hall following this service.

Several of the women made calico flowers and carried them to the nursing homes for use at Easter.

Baptist Women were very much involved in the Founder's Day Celebration, May 5, 1974. It was the 165th Anniversary of the founding of First Baptist Church.

Vacation Bible Schools were held at Guardian Care and Neuse Forest Nursing homes in June. Plans were made for a Bible School at Harker's Island and for one at a black church near Havelock.

Baptist Women grew in the early years of the seventies under its directors, Mrs. Cyril Edwards, Mrs. Harry Douglass, Mrs. R. A. Stainback and Mrs. Charles E. Parker.

A mission was organized in Colony Estates in August of 1974 and several of our Baptist Women left First Baptist to be a part of that mission endeavor. They had contributed much to W.M.U. and they were greatly missed. The mission was later constituted into Colony Baptist Church.

The President of Baptist Women, Mrs. Ray Stainback, asked Mrs. C. E. Parker and Miss Jane Marshall Jenkins to study literature from the Christian Action League to see what we

could do in banning the obscenity and pornography being shown in our local theaters. A petition was presented at the Sunday Night Worship Service, November 10, 1974 for our members to sign relative to this matter.

The Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions got off to a good start in December 1974 with Miss Sara Ann Hobbs, Executive Secretary, N.C., W.M.U. bringing a missionary message at the Sunday Night Worship Service.

Mrs. J. R. Garver, Mission Action Chairman, asked that our project for January 1975 be to help in the World Relief Program. Six hundred and ninety nine pounds of clothes were sent to World Relief in February.

A full observance was planned for W.M.U. Focus Week beginning February 9, 1975. The women sat together for recognition during the Sunday Morning Worship Service. Activities were planned for each day. On Sunday, February 16th, Dr. V. Carney Hargroves, President, Baptist World Alliance, preached at the morning Worship Service. Dr. Hargroves was the brother-in-law of Louis B. Daniel.

The Atlantic Associational W.M.U. Annual Meeting was at our church April 22, 1975. Our Director, Mrs. C. E. Parker and our President, Mrs. R. A. Stainback made good plans for the meeting. It was good to have our State W.M.U. President, Mrs. Gilmer Cross, with us again. She brought the Missionary Message of the day, "Entrusted with the Message of Reconciliation."

The Church Library was dedicated to Mr. and Mrs. N. E. Mohn on Sunday, May 11, 1975, Founder's Day and the 166th Anniversary of our Church. The flowers placed in the Library in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Mohn were given by the Baptist Women. The card read, "Because of their great love for missions these flowers are given in memory of Mr. and Mrs. N. E. Mohn by the Baptist Women of First Baptist Church.

A note in the Church Bulletin, Sunday, January 29, 1975 read: "The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving honor of Mr. and Mrs. Louis B. Daniel who are celebrating their fiftieth Wedding Anniversary today, By the

Baptist Women and Baptist Young Women of First Baptist Church.

Seven of our young women attended the Baptist Young Women's Convention at Ridgecrest in October.

The Bicentennial Year of our Country was reflected in our watchword for the year, "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, There is Liberty," II Cor. 3:17. The hymn for the year was, "My Country 'Tis of Thee."

A Prayer Retreat was a good way to begin the year, especially with Miss Martha Franks as Prayer Leader. Miss Franks retired in 1966 after a 41 year career of Mission Service in China and Taiwan. She led two sessions, one in the afternoon and one in the evening on February 9, 1976. The Retreat was a part of W.M.U. Focus Week, February 8-14, 1976. The women in the other churches in the association were invited to attend the Retreat. It was an inspirational and meaningful time of prayer.

The W.M.U. Convention of the Southern Union met in Norfolk, Va. June 13-14, 1976. Because of the location several of our women were able to attend the Convention. Those who attended were: Mrs. Sam Cook, Mrs. Harry W. Crump, Mrs. J. Pat Edwards, Mrs. Glenn Burkhart, Mrs. Roy Miller, Jr., Mrs. C. E. Parker, Mrs. R. A. Stainback and Mrs. Seth Needham. Their reports of the meeting were overflowing with enthusiasm.

Mrs. John Robert Jones was elected W.M.U. Director for the year 1976-1977 and Mrs. Sam P. Branch was elected President of Baptist Women. Mrs. Joseph R. Overby served as W.M. U. director for 1978-1979 with Mrs. Obie Willingham and Mrs. Dana Ferrell as Co-presidents of Baptist Women.

There are no minutes available from November 1976 until February 1983; however, the women were busy with Mission Study, Mission Action, Prayer Groups and Fostering the youth organization.

The Home Mission Study, "California Journey," was taught February 28, 1979 by the new pastor, Dr. Joseph P. Hester and his wife Marjorie.

The ladies wanted to name their groups for some former and present members. Names chosen were: Dot Harker Current

Missions Group, Emma Mitchell Current Missions Group, Eva Dixon Current Missions Group, Lillian Lane Bible Study Group, Elizabeth Parker Mission Prayer Group, Lina Benners Current Missions Group, Ethel Morton Bible Study Group and Christine Daniel Bible Study Group.

Mrs. J. K. Watson was the first W.M.U. Director in the eighties and Mrs. Obie Willingham was Baptist Women President. This was an exciting time. A long awaited dream in our association was realized with the dedication of the New Atlantic Associational Center in Havelock, N.C. on Sunday Afternoon, November 23, 1980. At the prior W.M. U. Associational Meeting in May, the women of the association voted to furnish the Reception Room. Our ladies gladly participated in this project. Mrs. R. A. Stainback served on the Furnishings Committee. It is a beautiful Reception Room of which the women are justly proud.

In observance of Focus Week in February, 1981, the Baptist Women sponsored a Coffee Hour Sunday Morning in the Fellowship Hall. They met at the close of this hour for the teaching of a Joint Sunday School Lesson. These activities began W.M.U. Focus week for three or four years.

The Associational W.M.U. Retreat was held at our church January 19, 1982 from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 noon. The emphasis was on prayer. It was well attended. The women of our church served lunch with some of their famous salads.

First Baptist Church voted in August 1982 to join the New Bern Religious Community Services, a child of the New Bern Ministerial Association. The women were active in this endeavor giving at least one day a month at the center interviewing clients, sorting and sizing clothing and distributing food.

Mrs. Joseph S. Larrimore, the pastor's wife, was chosen as W.M.U. Director and Mrs. Arnold Harrell was chosen President of Baptist Women in October 1982.

One of our Mission Action Groups was named for Miss Doris Walters, a missionary to Japan. She visited us and was the guest speaker at the Wednesday Evening Prayer Service, October 13, 1982.

At Christmas that year, socks were provided for the Women's Correctional Center in Raleigh, N.C. and food was given to the Religious Community Services Center. The women visited the shut-ins and carried baskets of fruit and candy. The young people made Christmas Ornaments for the shut-in baskets. Baskets of food were also carried to five families.

Mrs. Larrimore and Mrs. Harrell continued to lead the women in 1983-1984. In October 1983 the meeting time was changed from Monday Night to a noon meeting on Monday after the third Sunday in each month. Each member brought her own sandwich for lunch and the ladies in one of the groups served a beverage and dessert.

A Recognition Service was held October 22nd for the Girls in Action and the Acteens. Miss Diane Willingham and Miss Cindy Watson were Queens.

For several years the women have prepared kits for the children who attended camp through the Social Services. The material for the kits was donated by Mrs. George Salughter, Sr., and Interior Decorator. Mrs. Sam Cook made the draw string bags using wording and appliques. They were the most attractive Camper Kits anywhere. The members of the groups filled the bags with useful articles for the campers.

We were fortunate that Station WNCT-TV, Channel 9, CBS, Greenville, N.C. carried the Documentary, "Journey Home, Lottie Moon of China," December 5, 1983. We were grateful to the television station for giving us this wonderful opportunity to begin our observance of The Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions and for providing this boost to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

An offering was taken in December for work at the N.C. Correctional Center for Women. In a letter from Miss Pat Richie, Mission Friends/Baptist Young Women Director, she said that the money would go into the fund which that year would help in a variety of ways, such as buying a Christmas Card, Gift Box, Fruit and a Plastic Raincoat for each woman. The money also helped to pay for retreats held at Mundo Vista during the summer and fall.

Guilford Daugherty, Development Associate, Foreign Mission

Board, SBC, invited members of our church to attend an Appointment Service for Foreign Missionaries to be held in Richmond, Va., February 14, 1984. Guilford was one of First Baptist's Sons. He grew up in our church and was most active in Royal Ambassadors. He was ordained in our church February 12, 1950 to be a minister of the gospel. He worked with our State W.M.U. as Royal Ambassador Camp Director during the summers from 1949 through 1953. He was Royal Ambassador Secretary for Woman's Missionary Union of South Carolina. Guilford was with the Foreign Mission Board from 1983-1987. His proud mother is an active member of Baptist Women.

The trip to the Appointment Service in Parkview Baptist Church on Tuesday Night was a wonderful experience even though it was a bad day weatherwise. Never has rain poured any harder in New Bern than it did at 7:00 a.m., bus loading time. This did not dampen our spirits; however, as we visited the Foreign Mission Board and The Missionary Learning Center in the afternoon. The center at Rockville, Va. was nearing completion and we were able to tour the new Orientation Center.

We saw and felt many manifestations of love and commitment so appropriate on that Valentine's Day in 1984.

We shall forever be indebted to Guilford for making that special visit a reality for us.

The pastor, Joseph S. Larrimore and Mrs. Larrimore, W.M.U. Director, made the arrangements for the trip. We enjoyed a bus tour of Richmond on Wednesday Morning, which Guilford directed.

We expressed thanks to our Heavenly Father and to our bus driver, J. K. Watson for a safe and pleasant trip.

One of our members, Mrs. Herman Mattocks, was able to return for the Dedication of the Missionary Learning Center, October 10, 1984.

Mrs. Robert King, Jr., was elected W.M.U. Director and Mrs. Seth B. Needham was elected presidents of Baptist Women in October 1984. They were enthusiastic about reaching new members and set a goal to double the membership between

1984 and 1988.

The Religious Community Services opened a Soup Kitchen in the basement of Ebenezer Presbyterian Church on Bern Street, October 29, 1984. Mrs. King was interested in the Soup Kitchen and concerned about the people whom it served. Our women selected it as one of their Mission Action Projects. Many of them served regularly at the kitchen and recruited some men to help also.

A center was built on Guion Street to unify the Religious Community Services and the Soup Kitchen. This new facility was dedicated Sunday Afternoon, October 20, 1985.

Under the leadership of Mrs. J. R. Garver the women served a Christmas Dinner for Sunshine Friends December 12, 1984 in the Fellowship Hall. It was a time of fun and Inspiration for Shut-in Friends and Senior Citizens in the community. Christmas Stockings were made and filled for each one. It was well attended and was so successful that it became a yearly part of our Christmas Celebration.

As the year of 1985 began, momentum was building for celebrating One Hundred Years of Woman's Missionary Union. The W.M. U. of North Carolina was 100 years old in 1986. The Southern Union was 100 years old in 1988. The one hundredth year of our own society coincided with that of the State Union. Our Associational W.M. U. was almost one hundred years old. It was appropriate that the Associational W.M.U. hold its Annual Session in the historic First Baptist Church, New Bern on April 16, 1985 with the Theme, "By Love Compelled."

Twenty two of our members had attended the State Convention in Winston Salem in March. Evidently there was another meeting there at the same time. The marquee of Benton Convention & Civic Center read:

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION
BIG DOLL SHOW
& MINIATURES
SALE & REPAIR



We can't speak for the

other meeting but we had a Big Doll Show of our own and many repairs were made in our lives.

While our heads were in the clouds our feet were still on the ground. An offering of one hundred dollars was gathered in April for the North Carolina Togo Project.

We joined the other societies in our Association in sponsoring tours of the churches in our Association in an effort to stimulate interest and growth.

An Acteens Queens Coronation was held Sunday Night, November 17, 1985.

It would be an understatement to say that 1986 was a very busy year. Our Director, Mrs. Bee King and President, Mrs. Wilma Needham, stayed a step ahead of us in making plans and carrying them out.

Our Baptist Women had their own Birthday Celebration Wednesday Night, January 8, 1986. This was the day that Woman's Missionary Union of North Carolina became 100 years old. Mrs. Faye Willingham made a large Birthday Cake with Purple Icing. One hundred and sixty people came to the party. There was a showing of pictures, programs and other memorabilia. This also began one hundred days of prayer which were concluded on April 17, 1986, the first day of the State W.M.U. Convention in Raleigh, N.C.

On January 15th, thirty seven of our ladies participated in an Associational Celebration at National Avenue Church with, "Portraits of Our Past." A part of the program was a tour of, FRIENDSHIP HOUSE. This house was provided by the church for out-of-town families to stay who had members of their families ill in the local hospital. The program of the day was well planned and was most meaningful for all who participated in it.

Even though our ladies had helped on several occasions to stock the kitchen and provided house furnishings, they went back to their February Meeting and took an offering for FRIENDSHIP HOUSE.

Baptist Women had a Prayer Breakfast each Wednesday Morning in February for the Simultaneous Revival, "Good

News America, God Loves You," March 9-14, 1986.

Baptist Women welcomed Mrs. Horace McRae, of Lumberton, N.C., President of Woman's Missionary Union of North Carolina, to our Worship Service, Sunday Morning, April 6, 1986. She came to present a plaque commemorating the part that this church and Dr. Theodore Whitfield played in establishing Woman's Missionary Union in North Carolina.

While Dr. Whitfield was pastor at First Baptist Church in 1886, he went to Raleigh to meet with the State Secretary of Missions to work out plans for an appointment of woman's work in missions.

The plaque which Mrs. McRae presented to the church is inscribed:

"Dr. Theodore Whitfield, while pastor of First Baptist Church, New Bern, encouraged in 1886 the appointment of a Woman's Central Committee of Missions, Forerunner of Woman's Missionary Union. During this Centennial Year Woman's Missionary Union of North Carolina remembers Dr. Whitfield and First Baptist With Love and Deep Appreciation."

April 1986

Beatrice McRae, President
Nancy Curtis, Exec. Sec.

Another highlight of the, "Year of Celebration," was the Eighty-Eighth Annual Session of Woman's Missionary Union, Atlantic Association, April 15, 1986. The spacious sanctuary at Tabernacle Church, New Bern, accommodated all of the women who attended. The day was especially blessed by having Miss Carolyn Weatherford, Executive Director, Woman's Missionary Union auxiliary to Southern Baptist Convention, with us. The theme for the day was, "Pass It On."



Instead of making a W.M.U. Quilt the ladies in our association decided to make a Quilt of the Churches in our association to

present to Miss Weatherford at our Associational Meeting. A Quilting Party was held weekly at National Avenue Church. Several of our ladies who were so gifted helped in making this quilt. When the quilt was presented to Miss Weatherford, she said that it would be on display in the North Carolina Room of the new W.M.U. Headquarters Building in Birmingham, Alabama.

Twenty-six of our women attended the State W.M.U. Convention at the Civic Center, Raleigh, N.C. April 17-19, 1986 in celebration of its One Hundredth Birthday. It was a marvelous convention. There were so many highlights. It was a time of remembering and our memories ran rampant. It was like a Family Reunion seeing and visiting with so many whom



Miss Kathryn Bullard, Former State WMS Director, Miss Nancy Curtis, State Exec. Sec., Miss Jane Marshall Jenkins

we had known and worked with through the years. What a joy it was to visit and reminisce with Miss Ruth Provence. She came to North Carolina as W.M.U. Executive Secretary when I was a young Associational W.M.U. Young People's Director. She was so sedate and reserved but so gentle, efficient and effective.

Every time that the names of First Baptist Church, New Bern, Dr. Theo Whitfield and Mrs. Whitfield were mentioned we swelled with pride.

Mrs. Joseph S. Larrimore, our pastor's wife, gave the prayer for the Friday Afternoon Session of the Meeting.

A picture of the 1915 Convention at First Baptist Church, New Bern, N.C. was on display in the Northwest Exhibition Hall. It had been presented to the State Woman's Missionary Union by Miss Jane Marshall Jenkins, First Baptist Church, New Bern, N.C.

The closing Session on Saturday Morning with the Commitment Flag Recessional, Lighting of the huge Emblem and singing the G. A. Hymn, "We've A Story To Tell," was an awe inspiring spectacle.

James F. Norris, III, our Associate Minister in Music and Youth, did more than drive the bus for us. He was also our

Counselor and Guide. He must have been somewhat perplexed at the silence on the bus as we returned home Saturday Afternoon lost in thought and memory.

An offering was taken in June for the new W.M.U. Headquarters Building in Birmingham, Alabama. This was a privilege that no one wanted to miss.

The 1986-87 year began with Mrs. Seth Needham as W.M.U. Director and Mrs. W. K. Russell, Jr., as Baptist Women's President. This year was not as busy as the previous year had been. The activities of Prayer Observance, Mission Action, Bible Study and Fostering the Young People continued on through the year.

Eight of our women attended the State W.M.U. Convention at Ridgecrest, March 27-28, 1987.

At the Annual Associational W.M.U. Meeting in Morehead City, April 14, 1987, two of our women were elected to serve the Associational W.M.U. Mrs. Arnold Harrell was elected W.M.U. Director and Mrs. Ron H. Ashe was elected to serve as Missions Friends Director.

The year of Nineteen Hundred Eighty Eight was another Centennial Year. The Southern Union, Woman's Missionary Union auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention was one hundred years old May 11, 1988.

Our Association celebrated at First Baptist Church, New Bern, March 15, 1988. The State W.M.U. celebrated in Greensboro, N.C. March 18-19 at Four Seasons Holiday Inn. These were also times of rejoicing and remembering.

Then there was the Big Centennial Celebration of Woman's Missionary Union, auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention, May 13-14 in Richmond, Va., where W.M.U. was born. There was everything from a Commissioning Service for Home and Foreign Missionaries to a "Celebration in the Park." Eight of our women went to Richmond for the inspiration and festivities. They were, Mrs. Seth B. Needham, Mrs. Arnold Harrell, Mrs. W. K. Russell, Jr., Mrs. Harry W. Crump, Mrs. Robert King, Jr., Mrs. James R. Garver, Mrs. Charles Blythe and Mrs. John S. Hudson.

For the year 1987-1988 our W.M.U. was a Distinguished W.M.U. and our pastor, his wife and the W.M.U. Director would be accorded a special reserved seat at the night session, June 13, at the Southern W.M.U. Convention in San Antonio, Texas. The name of our church and our pastor was included in the printed W.M.U. Annual Report.

Earlier in the year our women became concerned for one of our sister churches that was visited on the Associational Tour of Churches, which was struggling. An offering was taken and sent to help this church.

The Reverend Gary Bishop, pastor at Riverbend Church, New Bern, was appointed a missionary to England. He and his wife would serve in General Evangelism. A love offering was taken at the June meeting for the Bishop Family.

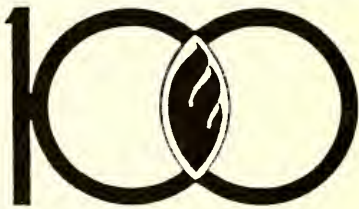
The Christmas in August Gifts in 1988 were for Kennedy Home, Kinston N.C. Kennedy Home is a part of the Children's Homes of The Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. The children there have always been close to the mothers at First Baptist Church, New Bern. The Baptist Women of our Association collected single bed sheets, bath and hand towels, paper goods, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo and bath soap. Some of our members visited the home August 16th to take the gifts. They were given a tour of the campus and treated to lunch.

During the year 1988, Woman's Missionary Union, SBC, promoted and conducted a TOUR OF LOTTIE MOON'S CHINA to celebrate the centennial of the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Mr. and Mrs. Robert King, Jr., made this wonderful trip in August with Mrs. Catherine B. Allen, Associate Executive Director, W.M.U., SBC.

It was wonderful to begin and end a century of missions with Miss Lottie Moon.

We wish that it were possible to publish the names of every woman, boy and girl who was a part of Woman's Missionary Union, First Baptist Church. Would pen and ink suffice to tell of their deeds of love and service? But their names are recorded where ink does not fade nor time erase.

A CENTURY TO CELEBRATE



A FUTURE TO FULFILL

Words fail us to express gratitude and praise for those things which our mothers, grandmothers and great grandmothers did for us and for the cause of Christ in Mission Endeavors and Missionary Education in this century which we celebrate.

What will the future hold for Woman's Missionary Union, First Baptist Church, New Bern, N.C.? In the Second Century of Woman's Missionary Union the Voice of Jesus is Still Calling, Who Will Answer gladly saying, Here Am I, Send Me.





Foreign Mission Board, Richmond,
Va. February 14, 1984



Jimmie Garver, Wilma Needham, Bee King, Julia Crump in Richmond at the
WMU Centennial.



Relaxing in motel room after an inspirational day at the State W.M.U. Convention, Raleigh, April 17, 1986.



Quilt of Atlantic Association Churches presented to Miss Carolyn Weatherford, Executive Director, Southern Union, April 15, 1986.

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